# Hafa Adail Sam linune

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THURSDAY JULY 11, 2019

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# \$130M hotel project down to 30 workers



## IPI says 7 illegally entered NMI

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Any wage claims by the seven con-

struction workers who are suing Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC and its two contractors are J. Tydingco, said the plaintiffs know- and Xiyang Du—are suing IPI, and posed to govern the implementation

gally entered the CNMI to work, according to IPI.

In its answer to the seven workers' lawsuit, IPI, through counsel Phillip barred because they voluntarily ille- ingly and voluntarily worked illegal-

ly in the CNMI.

The plaintiffs—Tianming Wang, Dong Han, Yongjun Meng, Liangcai Sun, Youli Wang, Quingchun Xu,

See IPI on Page 4

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

onstruction of the Honest Profit International Ltd.'s \$130-million, 312-room hotel project in San Antonio continues but the pace has severely slowed down, with only 30 foreign workers left, it was learned from sources yesterday.

Saipan Tribune has been seeking an update on the hotel project, but the Hong Kong-based Honest Profit International has refused to comment.

Sources disclosed that the project was zipping along smoothly four years ago when it had at its peak about 400 foreign construction workers, all of them Chinese. That num-

See \$130M on Page 4

# USCIS emptyhanded on revised CW-1 regs

- » USCIS urges business to file **CW-1** petitions
- "Use previous CW regs in the absence of new regs'

By ERWIN ENCINARES

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services remains without updated CW-1 regulations that would guide CNMI employers in petitioning foreign workers or renewing their immigration visas.

The new regulations are sup-

See USCIS on Page 4



#### LOCAL

A resolution that is intended to restrict birth tourism in the CNMI remains at the committee.

PAGE 7



The Marianas will host the 2nd Chief Taga Day Festival on Oct. 1-6, 2019.

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#### **BUSINESS**

Panda House (formerly Wowfull Waffles) has been setting off waves with flavored waffles.

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2 THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2019 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Local

# Audit detects some slip-ups in CUC regs for HR, travel

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE ferdie delatorre@saipantribune.com

ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com REPORTER

In its independent audit on the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s financial statements, the Office of the Public Auditor found that CUC is not in compliance with its regulations for the maintenance of human resources files and with its travel policies and procedures.

The independent audit, conducted by Burger Comer Magliari P.C. on CUC's financial statements on years that ended Sept. 30, 2018, and 2017, determined that the utilities agency did not adhere to policies and procedures for the maintenance of human resources files.

The auditor also found lack of adherence to established policies and procedures regarding the liquidation of travel advances.

CUC chief financial officer Greg Cruz agreed with the auditor's findings.

On human resources files, Cruz said the HR Department is working diligently to make sure all employee documentations of change be in place to avoid or minimize any errors or future discrepancies.

Cruz said that, although there were missing Notice of Personnel Actions from the employees' files, the pay rate changes were approved prior to the payroll department making the adjustments.

On travel, Cruz said CUC's Travel Section will ensure that all interisland and international travels trip reports—travel documentations that are required to be submitted 15 days from return of travel—should be submitted in a timely manner. He said the Travel Section will advise employee by email and courtesy phone call with the submission of travel vouchers and trip reports.

As for missing boarding passes, CUC employees would request airlines for a duplicate copy of boarding passes, Cruz said.

He said a travel checklist will be given to every employee when picking up checks, to be acknowledged by the employee.

With respect to human resources matter, the auditor found that, as a result of CUC's noncompliance with its regulations, there could be misstatements in payroll expenses.

"Potential fraud could exist and not be detected," the auditor said in its findings.

The auditor said that based on results of testing of personnel records, for 20 or 22 percent of 90 personnel records selected for testing, the rate used in calculating the payroll was not supported by an approved Notice of Personnel Action for 20 employees.

The auditor said the cause was that the NOPAs for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 2018,1 were not provided to the auditor by the HR Department.

The auditor noted that a similar condition was reported in the prior year audit.

The auditor's recommendation is that CUC should ensure that all employees have valid contracts, and that the HR Department maintains and updates the files periodically.

With respect to travel policy, the auditor said for 20 or 25% of 79 travel authorizations selected, the travel voucher was submitted latte; 10 or 13% were not dated; 25 or 32% were missing boarding passes; and 7 or 9% were not liquidated.

The auditor said for 15 or 19% of 79 travel authorizations selected, the trip reports were not submitted together with the travel voucher.

The auditor noted a similar condition was reported in the prior year audit.

The auditor's recommendation is that CUC should adhere to its travel policy to ensure that all travelers comply with the policy.

The auditor informed CUC board of directors that, in its opinion, such financial statements present fairly the financial position of CUC as of Sept. 30, 2018, and the changes in the net position and cash flows for the year ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S.

"In our opinion, the schedule of revenues, expenses and changes in net position on a divisional basis and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole," the auditor said.

The auditor also stated that the results of their tests showed instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under government auditing standards.

The audit showed that during the year ending Sept. 30, 2018, CUC had earnings from operations of about \$7.4 million compared to a loss of about \$4.1 million for the year ending Sept. 30, 2017.

The audit also indicated that during the year ending Sept. 30,2018, CUC's operating revenues increased overall by

\$14.3 million or 16.8% when compared to revenues for the year ending Sept. 30, 2017.

The audit found that operating expenses also increased by \$2.8 million or 3.2%.

As of Sept. 30, 2018, CUC had \$107.22 million invested in capital assets, net of depreciation where applicable, including electric plant, water plant, sewer plant, administrative equipment, and construction in progress.

#### Senate confirms Bress to 9th Circuit seat

SAN FRANCISCO—The U.S. Senate confirmed yesterday President Donald Trump's nomination of Daniel Aaron Bress to serve as a judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Senators gave their consent by a vote of 53-45.

Bress was nominated to the court on Feb. 6, 2019. After his appearance before the Senate Judiciary Committee on May 22, 2019, his nomination was reported to the Senate floor on June 20, 2019.

Prior to his appointment to the bench, Bress had been a partner at the law firm of Kirkland & Ellis LLP in Washington, D.C., since 2011. Before joining Kirkland as an associate in 2008, Bress was an associate at Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP in San Francisco from 2007 to 2008.

Born in Hollister, California, Bress received his J.D., Order of the Coif, in 2005 from the University of Virginia School of Law, where he was editor-in-chief of the *Virginia Law Review* from 2004 to 2005. He received his A.B. from Harvard College, magna cum laude, in 2001. He clerked for Justice Antonin Scalia of the U.S. Supreme Court from 2006 to 2007. (*PR*)

# When: July 9, 10, & 11, 2019 (Tuesday - Thursday) Time: 8:00am - 4:00pm (Close 12pm - 1pm) Venue: Kagman Community Health Center, Admin Office Call: (670) 285-4069

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# **Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation**



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands 1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950





This is to inform the general public that the CNMI Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program 2020 State Plan is now available for public review and comments from July 08-12, 2019. Interested members of the general public may review the CNMI WIC Program 2020 State Plan at the WIC Program's Administrative Office located in Upper Navy Hill, Mayoria Ave. Building N25. Office hours are from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm (Monday-Friday). All public comments must be submitted in writing to the WIC Program Administrator at the same office no later than close of business on July 12, 2019.

/s/ Esther L. Muna Chief Executive Officer /s/ Erin Angela Camacho
CNMI WIC Program Administrator



The CNMI WIC Program is an equal opportunity provider, and is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (CFDA #10.557, federal award #7NM700NM5).

P.O. Box 500409 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 Telephone: (670) 236-8201/2 FAX: (670) 233-8756

# OAG withdraws motion to enter IPI financial info as evidence

The Office of the Attorney General that is representing the Commonwealth Casino Commission has decided against entering the audited Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC financial report for 2018 as evidence in the ongoing preliminary injunction hearing.



**Ernest** 

Assistant attorney general Michael Ernest informed the court in a hearing yesterday that he is withdrawing the Er-

nest & Young audited financial report from being entered as evidence.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo granted Ernest's request but said the audited financial report would not be released to the commission or the OAG.

In an interview with IPI lawyer Viola Alepuyo, she said the fact that CCC tried to enter the audited report it obtained from the Legislature into evidence was offensive.

"I'm going to go back to my medical records example. Medical records are absolutely private. It's protected by federal and local laws and so are tax information. If somebody who works at the hospital takes my medical records and they go to the Legislature and they submit it, does that mean that it is not confidential anymore? You cannot use the Legislature as your tool to try to make a confidential document no longer confidential. One person's wrongdoing should not be the basis of trying to circumvent rules and laws," she said.

When asked why they are still fighting to keep the 2018 audited financial report confidential despite it already being leaked on social media and being in the records of the Legislature, Alepuyo said it is to ensure that it does not happen for future audited reports.

"Please, don't just think about this as 'this time.' What are we going to do about 2019, 2020, 2021? And it's not just about IPI. It's about other companies as well and their confidential information," she said.

Ernest withdrew entering the audited financial report into evidence following revelation yesterday that CCC itself could have given the report to the Legislature, which then made it public.

Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) said in a previous interview that Gaming Committee chair Rep. Ralph Yumul (R-Saipan) gave him the report.

The hearing continues today. (Kimberly A. Bautista)



# Senate starts picking at FY '20 budget

The Senate has started to review the House of Representative's allocation of funds for the fiscal year 2020 budget roughly less than two months before its constitutionally mandated deadline of Sept.

House Bill 21-64 has already been given a quick look by the Senate's Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Sen. Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian).

The bill was transmitted to

the Senate last June 28, 2019.

Hofschneider said Tuesday afternoon that he has already asked the Legislature's fiscal analyst, David Demapan, to start reviewing the House version of the bill, which almost never passes the Senate without further amendments.

"It's early but...we are going to work really hard to come up with a product as early as possible," Hofschneider said, adding that he targets a Senate version of the budget bill by the end of July 2019.

The budget, as proposed by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for fiscal year 2020, is 9.7-percent lower than fiscal year 2019's budget of \$258.14 million.

This year, Torres proposed only \$233.22 million for the upcoming fiscal year.

Minus \$233.22 million in annual earmarks, that leaves the Legislature with a little over \$147.1 million to work on-still over \$24.45 million compared to fiscal year 2019's \$171.58 million. (Erwin Encinares)



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services community relations and outreach regional lead Jennifer Lane addresses the Saipan Chamber of Commerce during a brief presentation Wednesday.

EREWIN ENCINARES

From Page 1

#### \$130M

From Page 1

ber has been going down over since then and, from the only 40 Chinese workers who remained last week, it's now down to 30 this week after more workers left the CNMI due to expired CW-1 permits.

All of the workers are employed with the contractor, Win Win Way Construction Co. Saipan Inc., sources said.

No one from Win Win Way

Construction Co. was available to comment yesterday. It was not immediately learned why the project has no local construction workers.

The groundbreaking for the five-star hotel complex, which was supposed to include five villas, was held in September 2014.

Sources said that the project's manpower reached 400 in 2015. As a result, the first phase of the project was completed in the latter part of that year.

In August 2015, Typhoon Soudelor stymied the project. In 2017, only 200 Chinese workers were left after Filipino construction workers were barred from the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker visa program. The number of foreign workers has decreased further due to lack of CW workers.

Sources said construction further slowed down after Super Typhoon Yutu's devastation in October 2018, which also damaged the project.

A source said the remaining

workers have lately been installing window panes.

'Construction is very slow, but is moving on," the source said.

Honest Profit is said to be targeting the latter part of next year as the project's completion date. The original target completion date was 2018.

The hotel complex has three big buildings, which are already up. The villa buildings have also been completed. Interior work in the buildings are ongoing.

Tydingco said IPI was aware that Occupational Safety and Health Administration cited the contractors and subcontractors working on the hotel/casino complex and that a fire and a fatality occurred at the construction site on March

wealth laws.

compensated workers who claimed that they had not received wages from certain contractors and subcontractors in 2017.

of Public Law 115-218, or the Northern Marian Islands U.S. Workforce Act of 2018, which President Trump enacted on July 24, 2018. Yet one year later, it was learned yesterday during a presentation to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce that there are still no updated CW-1 regulations reflecting the passage of P.L. 115-218.

However, Jennifer Lane, USCIS community relations and outreach regional lead, noted that the absence of updated CW regulations should not discourage businessowners from submitting their CW-1 petitions.

"...Just because we haven't published the regulations yet doesn't mean you cannot apply for it," she said. "... If you are filing for an employee, a CW-1, who will start their employment by Sept. 30 or earlier, then you are filing... under the [fiscal year] 2019 numbers."

Anything beyond Oct. 1, 2019, would consume fiscal year 2020 slots, Lane noted during yesterday's brief presentation at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

The only caveat for applying beyond October 2019, according to Lane, would be

to submit an additional document known as the "temporary labor certification" from the NMI Department of Labor.

Also, with the absence of the new regulations governing the CW-1 visa, Lane noted that E-Verify.gov, a source for information on electronic employment eligibility that is open to the public, is still not mandatory.

"Because we haven't published the House Resolution 559, E-Verify is still not mandatory. [E-Verify] will not be mandatory until we publish the [new] regulations," she said. In the meantime, Lane suggests that employers should start getting familiar with E-Verify for the future.

Lane, who presented to the SCC and answered questions with USCIS district 26 community relations officer Kamana Mathur, did not specify when USCIS plans to release the new CW-1 regulations.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres had already sent three letters to USCIS. Two letters were dated June 6, 2019 and Sept. 18, 2019, while an earlier letter to then-U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen around August 2018 urged the agency to reserve 200 CW-1 permit applications for healthcare practitioners and both technical and healthcare support occupations.

#### IPI

From Page 1

contractors Gold Mantis Construction Decoration (CNMI) LLC and MCC International over the injuries they suffered during accidents at the casino project worksite.

The plaintiffs, who are all Chinese nationals, are suing the defendants for alleged forced labor in violation of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act, forced labor in violation of the CNMI Anti-Trafficking Act, negligence, and liability for employees of subcontractor.

The workers alleged, among

other things, that they were forced to work long hours for below minimum wage under extremely dangerous conditions at the casino-resort worksite.

In IPI's answer and affirmative defenses to the lawsuit, Tydingco asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to rule that each of the plaintiffs take nothing in their complaint.

To the extent plaintiffs are deeded to be IPI employees or borrowed servants, their claim for negligence is barred because IPI possessed Workers Compensation Insurance. As such, the plaintiffs have not exhausted the administrative remedies available to them before the Commonwealth

Workers Compensation Commission, Tydingco said.

He said the plaintiffs' claims

for forced labor are barred based on consent. Tydingco said their negligence claim is "barred by con-

tributory negligence of and/or assumption of the risk." With respect to other allegations, the lawyer said IPI lacks knowledge on the corporate

structure and ownership of

Gold Mantis. He pointed out MCC was contracted to assist in the construction of IPI's casino and hotel in Garapan and had the duties and obligations outlined in its contract and imposed by law.

14, 2017 and March 22, 2017, respectively. He said IPI admonished its contractors that they should always comply with all applicable federal and Common-

Tydingco said IPI then

# Court approves 2020 trial for Rota mayor

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA kimberly\_bautista@saipantribune.com

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert Naraja granted last week the government's request to postpone Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig's jury trial to January 2020.

Naraja set the jury trial for Atalig and his co-defendants on Jan. 13, 2020, after finding

good cause, saying the continuation is justified.

The court order listed several reasons for the delay but, ultimately, the delay was cited as justified because Atalig is also being

tried in the District Court for the NMI. Waiting for another sovereign to finish prosecuting Atalig is without question a valid reason for the delay, according to the order.

"The trial was initially scheduled to begin after the federal proceeding. The trial date in the federal case was recently continued from June 9 until Oct. 1 due to Atalig's recovery from surgery. Continuing this trial to January 2020 will again allow this trial to begin after the federal proceeding, which was filed before this matter, and will promote judicial economy,"

the order stated.

The court also took into consideration the seven other defendants who are involved in the case and that the trial would take place on Rota. Continuing the trial to 2020 would allow the court to impanel a jury on Rota.

Atalig's co-defendants are Rota Department of Public Works resident director Van-

essa Charfauros,
Department of Labor Rota resident
director Dexter
Apatang, Department of Commerce
Rota resident director Dean Manglona,
Department of Finance Rota resident



All the defendants were charged with theft and misconduct in public office by the OAG for taking government funds and salary compensation to attend a Republican campaign rally in Guam in June 2018.



Atalig

# Hearing in suit vs CCC ends today

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA kimberly\_bautista@saipantribune.com

The preliminary injunction hearing requested by Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC against the Commonwealth Casino Commission is scheduled to end today. Both parties will be giving their closing arguments and IPI will be presenting a summary of why they believe they are entitled to confidentiality when it comes to their financial statements.

After two days of litigation, CCC and IPI have reached the end of their witness list, submitted all evidence supporting their arguments, and are ready for the summation of the case and to present their closing arguments.

During the hearing yesterday, IPI lawyer Viola Alepuyo said that she would like to go ahead with the summation today; there are just a few tweaks she would like to make to the PowerPoint presentation they prepared.

One of the major modifications they wanted to make, Alepuyo said, was to include the testimony of expert witness David Burger, who completed his expert testimony yesterday. "The PowerPoint that we have is really quite intensive because it lays out why a temporary restraining order is necessary, why the courts have said what the elements are and whether we've met those elements or not. Mr. [David] Burger was a huge witness and we want to make sure that we got all the important stuff that he said into the Power-Point," she said.

Burger, a certified public accountant in the CNMI, testified about the confidentiality of a business' financial statements.

Despite objections from CCC lawyer Michael Ernest, who said they wanted to complete the summation yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo called for a recess and to resume the hearing today at 9am.

Govendo also said he wants to complete the summation and hear both closing arguments before lunch due to other judicial matters he has scheduled.

Govendo also stated last Tuesday that he would come up with an order after 10 days so that he can look over all the evidence and take into consideration the arguments made by both CCC and IPI.



**TEACH A MAN TO FISH...** 

Participants of the Saipan Fisherman's Association Outreach program last week were awarded fishing rods. The program aims to support the community's youth in area like mental health.

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#### 'Tanka' collection illustrates life with cats

A book of American-style tanka poetry by University of Guam professor Yukiko Inoue-Smith was published last June 3, adding to her growing collection of published works.

Life with Goblin and PJ: A Collection of Tanka Poetry was published by JustFiction Edition.

Inoue-Smith, a professor of educational psychology and research, has worked extensively with tanka, which translates into "short song" and is one of the oldest styles of Japanese poetry. With a structure similar to haiku, tanka poems



**MEETING NOTICE** 

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that the Board Personnel Affairs Committee will be holding a special meeting on Friday, July 12, 2019, at 9:30 a.m. in Meeting Room 1 located in between the Arrival and Departure Terminals at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport

#### <u>agenda</u>

- Preliminary Matter:
  - Roll Call
  - Adoption of Agenda
  - Adoption of Minutes -June 05, 2019 and June 25, 2019
- Public Comment(s)
- - Fitness Training Policy i. ARFF
- ii. Ports Po**l**ice Travel policy -Per diem calculations
- Organizational Chart
- New Business: 1. None.
- Executive Session (if needed)
- Adjournment

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. A time limit will be imposed for oral testimony

Joseph M. Diaz, Chairman

written in Japanese are verses of 31 syllables in one straight line. But in English and other languages, they are often written using five lines.

The poetry in Life with Goblin and PJ is inspired by the author's two cats.

"I have come to realize the huge benefits of having pets,"

Inoue-Smith writes in the book. "For most of my adult life, I concentrated on my studies and then on my work. ...Without knowing it, I needed cats very much."

Other published

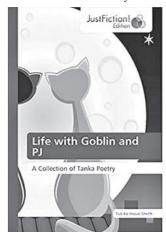


tanka collections by Inoue-Smith include Winter Woods:

> My Journey into Tanka, The Inescapable Seasons of Life, Do Cats Dream? and AShawl of Mist. She has also authored and compiled books on educational topincluding A

Inoue-Smith

Jungle Named Academia: Approaches to Self-Development and Growth and Faculty Roles



and Changing Expectations in the New Age. Her works are available for purchase via Amazon and JustFiction. (PR)

Everything today Dashed my hopes-It is late and Hearing my complaints My cats have no response

> — Excerpt from Life with Goblin and PJ

#### **HAWAII NEWS**

#### Man ordered to pay \$172K for disrupting flight from Honolulu

HONOLULU (AP)—A man whose behavior on a Hawaiian Airlines flight to South Korea forced it to return to Honolulu has been ordered to pay the air carrier more than \$172,000.

Kyong Chol Kim was sentenced Wednesday to six months in jail for interfering with flight attendants and crew members on the flight in February. Prosecutors say the 48-year-old South Korean man drank a bottle of whiskey before the flight and later bothered a child seated next him. Prosecutors say he lunged at a flight attendant after the employee confronted

him about his behavior. U.S. service members on board helped restrain Kim as the flight turned around. Kim was ordered to pay Hawaiian Airlines the cost of returning the flight and accommodating passengers waiting for the plane in South Korea.

#### **University of Hawaii** says 21-year-old linebacker has died

HONOLULU (AP)—A University of Hawaii football player has died. Linebacker Scheyenne Sanitoa died on July 4, the school said in a statement Friday. He was 21. Teammates were brought together Friday morning to discuss the death, and campus counselors were

available for students and staff. the statement said. "Schevenne was a tremendous young man and we are devastated by this news," said the school's athletic director, David Matlin. "It's always heartbreaking to lose a member of our UH ohana, particularly when it's one of our young student-athletes." University of Hawaii spokesman Derek Inouchi said the death did not happen on campus, and Sanitoa was not involved in any athletics department activities at the time of his death. No other details were available. According to the school. Sanitoa played in 12 games last season. He was originally from American Samoa.

#### Filipino group joins call vs China 'intrusion' in West Philippine Sea

A group of Filipinos in the CNMI will be joining a planned worldwide movement tomorrow, July 12, to renew calls for China to respect international laws and Philippine sovereignty in the West Philippine Sea.

The US Pinoys for Good Governance-Marianas Chapter will hold the protest rally on Beach Road in San Jose. On Guam, it will be across the ITC Building, San Antonio Road in Tamuning.

The other protests will take place in front of China consulates or embassies and key areas in Manila, San Francisco, New York, Scotland, Canada, and other cities.

The planned global movement is intended to mark the third anniversary of the Philippines' victory in an arbitration case it filed against China in 2013. The arbitration case resulted in a legal win for the Philippines last July 12, 2016.

USPGG will be joined in tomorrow's rally by various groups such as the National Youth Movement for the West Philippine Sea, Global Filipino Diaspora Council, Migrante US and Migrante Youth, Malaya Movement, Network on China's Aggression on the Philippines, and Bayan USA.

For more information on times and venues for the rallies, visit the USPGG Facebook page at USPGGNational or their website, www.US-PGG.org. (PR)



#### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Mount Carmel School (MCS) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified Food Service Management Companies (FSMC) to run the School Canteen for school year 2019-2020 located in front of the Sugar Mill Building, Knight Street, Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, MP 96950.

The Proposal must address the essential requirements as indicated on the RFP package. RFP packages may be obtained from the MCS Business Office during our summer working hours (8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.) Monday to Friday, except on designated holidays. Interested FSMC's are encouraged to provide to MCS, in writing, their mailing address, email address, and/or fax number in the event that addendums are made to the RFP package

All proposals must be received by MCS no later than  $4.00\,\mathrm{p.m.}$  on Monday, July  $15,\,2019$  at the MCS Business Office located at the MCS campus in Chalan Kanoa. The proposal must be submitted in a sealed envelope labeled as "RFP MCS School Canteen" and addressed to "MCS Business Office."

Mount Carmel School reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bid proposals and to award on a single or multiple award which it deems most favorable to the interest of MCS. As always, MCS reserves the right to waive any defects, informalities, irregularities if to do so is in the best interest of the school,

Galvin S. Deleon Guerrero



#### SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JULY 29, 2019

<u>"Disaster case management program"</u>

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED -UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN. DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

\*Mandatory bidders meeting on July 03, 2019 @ 11:00 am, Saipan time @ CHCC Conference Room #3.

\*Off-island vendors, please email Subroto Banerji @

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA

/S/ SUBROTO BANERJI

#### **B&J CORPORATION** Dba Dive Y2K/ Olive Style

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#### **SCUBA DIVING INSTRUCTOR (1)**

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Explains safety guidelines and procedures to customers. Clean and check Scuba Diving gears and apparatus equipment for any defect or break. Does other related jobs.

#### REQUIREMENTS

- Two years related experience.
- At least High School Graduate
- Must possess a valid Scuba Diving Instructor license from NAUI or PADI
- Must be willing to work with flexible schedule
- Must be able to speak, read and write the Korean language for better communications with Korean tourist customer.

#### SALARY: \$11.70/HOUR

Interested applicants Send resume to BnJcorp2019@gmail.com or call 1-670-233-6322 (Monday to Friday, 8am-5pm except holidays)

This is a temporary full time position.

#### **B&J CORPORATION Dba Dive Y2K/ Olive Style**

Has an opening for

#### **RESERVATIONS SALES AGENT (1)**

#### **DUTIES**

- Make arrangement and accept reservations from Hotel/Tour Agency and Walk in Customers.
- Make daily schedule for Dive arrangements and schedules.
- · Explain Diving Tour packages to tourist customers.
- · Make Daily Sales report and record receipt of payments from customers.

#### REQUIREMENTS

- · At least High School Graduate
- Must be knowledgeable in computer programs ( Excel, Word and Online Reservations System)
- At least 3 year related experience in travel/tourism industry.
- Knowledge in Scuba Diving activities is a plus.
- · Police Clearance required.
- Prior work experience certificate required.
- · Police clearance and previous employment certificate will be equally applied to both U.S. Workers and CW-1 Workers.

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Interested applicants Send resume to BnJcorp2019@gmail.com or call 1-670-233-6322 (Monday to Friday, 8am-5pm except holidays)

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#### CW-1 Workers. SALARY: \$13.92/HOUR

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This is a temporary full time position.

# No action on resolution limiting birth tourism in NMI

A resolution that is intended to express the Legislature's support of restricting birth tourism in the CNMI remains at the committee level in the House of Representatives after members failed to agree to agree during a meeting last Tuesday morning to push House Joint Resolution 21-4 to the House floor for a vote.

Some members of the House Committee on Foreign and Federal Affairs saw problems in how HJR 21-4 is written.

"I am concerned about the way it is crafted," according to Rep. Joseph "Lee Pan" Guerrero (R-Saipan), who says it fails to quantify birth tourism incidents in the CNMI compared to other U.S. territories and states. He further pointed out that the CNMI numbers could possibly be a fraction of the birth tourism numbers compared to the U.S. mainland.

He said the Torres administration is pushing the passage of the resolution as in its current form but "I am concerned we are just going to [shoot] ourselves in the foot."

Guerrero said the federal government already handles the CNMI's immigration, essentially controlling who comes in and out of the CNMI. Yet, according to the lawmaker, any tourist who comes into the CNMI past immigration falls under CNMI jurisdiction.

Host families sought for visiting Japanese students the evening of the event.

looking for host families for

Students are required to com-

Students must also have a U.S. passport that is valid for at least six months after the final day of travel. There will be no homestays, but students will be sharing rooms.

Activities that are planned for the trip are visits to Lotte World, historical sites in Seoul, the Aquarium of KOEX and 63 Building, KBS Broadcasting, industrial factories like KIA Car, Seoul Nandaemon Market, and the Namsan Tower.

The deadline to submit applications is on July 31, 2019.

Saipan Mayor's Office and in the office's website: www. saipanmayor.net.

For more information, contact the Saipan Mayor's Office student exchange program coordinator Yuki Kishimoto through email at ykishimoto@ mos.gov.mp or call (670) 234-6208. (Marc A. Venus)



Committee members Reps.

Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan),

Richard Lizama (Ind-Saipan),

Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan), and

Ralph Yumul (R-Saipan) were absent from the meeting.

The committee later agreed

to defer to House floor leader

John Paul Sablan's (R-Saipan)

discretion to exercise his author-

ity whether to put the joint reso-

lution on the House floor tomor-

row for discussion during their

session. (Erwin Encinares)

The House Federal and Foreign Affairs Committee convenes last July 9, 2019, to discuss a birth tour-

ism resolution.

he said. The main difference

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# The Saipan Mayor's Office is

visiting students from Japan.

Two Japanese groups will be visiting Saipan. The Sanpoen group will be here from July 27 to Aug 1. There will be a total of 10 students (ranging from ages 11 to 16 years old) and eight chaperones. The group is led by high priest Kansho Kayaki and his brother, Susumu Kayaki.

The students are scheduled to homestay for two days, July 28 and 30.

This trip will mark the group's 41st annual visit to the CNMI. They will also be holding their annual lantern ceremony on July 28 at the Hopwood beach and the public is invited to help make the paper lanterns and to release them in

Saipan) also noted that, while

all medical bills the Common-

wealth Health Center charges

for foreign births in the CNMI

are usually paid in cash, the

joint resolution itself "sends a

here that states that birth tourism

is hurting the resources of [the

Commonwealth Health Care

Corp.], but CHCC came in re-

cently and told us that all of these

foreigners pay cash," he said.

Camacho was referring to

a clause in the proposed joint

resolution that blames the re-

duction in CHCC resources

on the "deleterious effect" of

birth tourism, which report-

edly increased 175% between

2010 and 2012, outnumbering

those of any other ethnicities.

Camacho did not imme-

diately respond to Saipan

Tribune when asked for his

stance on the resolution but

Guerrero noted that, written as

than "BJ" Attao (R-Saipan)

noted during the meeting that,

while expectant tourists do pay

in cash, majority of the pay-

ments go directly to private clin-

about \$15,000 to \$17,000 and,

of [that], only \$2,000—just

like any other pregnancy in the

hospital—is paid to [CHCC],"

"The [private] clinics get

ics handling the pregnancies.

is, he does not support it. House Speaker Blas Jona-

"...There are some clauses

negative message."

The second group, the Kokusai Seishonen Kenshu Kyokai or International Youth Association of Japan, will be visiting from Aug 17 to 23. There will be a total of nine students (ranging from 11 to 13 years old) and a chaperone. Similar to the Sanpoen group, the KSKK group has been sending students to the CNMI for over 35 years now; this trip marks their 40th year, and they plan to celebrate their 40th anniversary this December.

The group will stay with the host family for the duration of their stay and the host family will be paid a small amount to help cover the expenses for the accommodation.

In return, the Sanpoen and KSKK groups invite Saipan 234-6208. (Marc A. Venus)

students to visit Japan.

The Sanpoen trip to Japan is usually held in February and the KSKK trip is held in November every year. Unfortunately, both trips were cancelled this year due to Super Typhoon Yutu affecting the CNMI.

being the patient does not pay

for the services rendered by

those hours," he said, refer-

ring to the midwives' hourly

rate. "They are only paying for their regular \$2,000 rate,

HJR 21-4 signals that the

Legislature agrees to amend

Article III, Section 303 of the

CNMI Covenant to limit birth

tourism in the CNMI. Section

303 specifically states that "all

persons born in the Common-

wealth...will be citizens of the

HJR 21-4, as introduced by

Attao, supports amending Ar-

ticle III Section 303 of the Cov-

enant to limit birthright U.S. cit-

izenship to people "having been

born to persons domiciled in the

Commonwealth or holding citi-

United States at birth.'

just as any other pregnancy."

"They are not paying for

CHCC's midwives.

The Saipan Mayor's Office is encouraging local families to volunteer as hosts since this is a great opportunity to create a lasting relationship with the people of Japan. Forms are available at the Saipan Mayor's Office and in the office's website: www.saipanmayor.net.

For families who are interested, contact the mayor's office student exchange program coordinator through email at ykishimoto@mos.gov.mp or call (670)

# Students sought for Korea exchange trip

The Saipan Mayor's Office is looking for high school students who want to participate in a trip to South Korea. The trip is open to high school students from grades 9 to 12 and is sponsored by the Korean Community of Saipan.

This trip is scheduled from Sept. 1 to 5 and there will be a fee of \$500, which already includes the airfare, meal, transportation, and lodging fees.

There are 20 available slots, on a first-come, first-serve basis. plete an application form provided by the Saipan Mayor's Office.

Forms are available at the

# Chief Taga Day Festival set Oct.1-6 on Tinian

On Oct. 1-6, 2019, the Marianas will host the 2nd Chief Taga Day Festival, honoring one of its most legendary fig-

ures, the indigenous Chamorro chief Taga. be held on the island of Tinian, recorded as the place where

"Gineptin Ha'anen Taga'" (Chief Taga Day Festival) will

be held on the island of Tinian, recorded as the place where Taga last lived and was buried. Tinian is also home to the



In this October 2018 file photo, Tinian Mayor Joey San Nicholas, center, receives a copy of a resolution honoring Chief Taga that was passed by the Tinian Legislative Delegation.

#### Caregivers train at UOG to become Certified Nursing Assistants



Twenty caregivers employed with Catholic Social Service and Health Services of the Pacific began an apprenticeship program at the University of Guam on June 4 to become certified nursing assistants.

A second class of apprentices began the three-month Nursing Assistant Education Program in June at the University of Guam to become certified nursing apprentices (CNAs). The program was launched in February under a federal grant and is the first CNA program on island to offer a paid apprenticeship.

The class has 20 students who are employed as caregivers with Catholic Social Service or Health Services of the Pacific.

"This will mean promotions for the individuals who obtain the certification, and it will also immediately elevate the quality of care in these organizations and on our island," said Margaret Hattori-Uchima, dean of UOG's School of Nursing and Health Sciences. "Caregivers, in some cases, receive very little training, whereas these CNAs will receive 160 hours of training and

will have to pass an exam."

CNAs work under the supervision of a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse preparing rooms and supplies, assisting with tests and procedures, and directly assisting patients.

The demand for CNAs in Guam is growing with a higher vacancy rate than the U.S. mainland, Hattori-Uchima said. Based on a needs assessment the school conducted in December among Guam Memorial Hospital, Guam Regional Medical City, and Health Services of the Pacific, there was a 29% vacancy rate for nursing assistants, compared to the U.S. rate of 22%.

Funding for the training program comes through the Guam Department of Labor via the State Apprenticeship Expansion grant, a \$1.7 million grant to increase registered apprentices in Guam by 300 workers within allied

health, telecommunications, construction, and hospitality.

"We're yielding to the subject matter experts as to what the workforce needs now," said Lina N. Hammond, program manager for the grant. "Those are the four in-demand industries."

The funding covers the students' tuition, uniforms, books, clearances, and physical exams to be part of the program. Following the completion of 160 hours of classroom training and paid apprenticeships at their place of employment, the students will take the CNA exam to become officially certified.

Those interested in participating in future cohorts need to have a high school diploma and an interest in becoming a CNA and can contact UOG Apprenticeship Coordinator Danilo Bilong at (671) 735-2650 or dbilong@triton.uog.edu. (PR)

House of Taga, a landmark on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places and the site of the largest standing limestone latte stones in the Marianas. Latte stones served as support pillars for ancient Chamorro structures.

The event is sponsored in part by the Marianas Visitors Authority.

Chief Taga is one of the most recognizable figures in Marianas history and mythology. In Spanish written records, Taga was recorded as aiding shipwrecked sailors off the reef near Tinian in the 1600s. In Chamorro mythology, Taga was known to possess superhuman strength, uprooting a coconut tree as a young child to catch a co-

conut crab and leaping from Rota to Tinian.

"Travelers today are looking for authentic experiences in the places they visit, and sharing our indigenous culture is one way to meet that need and grow interest in our destination." said MVA managing director Priscilla Iakopo. "The Marianas Visitors Authority is excited to again partner with the Tinian Mayor's Office and Tinian Municipal Council to bring the story of Taga to life for visitors and residents."

The festival will be held on Tinian in the main village of San Jose. Accommodations are available at the Tinian Ocean View Hotel, Fleming Hotel, Lorilynn's Hotel, Tinian Street Motel, Green Field Lion House, the newly opened Marpo Valley Inn, and The Cabin. Camping is also allowed at Kammer Beach, where bathrooms, outdoor showers, barbecue pits, and pavilions are also available for use. Activities include lectures, storytelling, and cultural demonstrations are planned for the week.

For more information, contact Chief Taga Day Festival Committee chair Joseph San Nicolas of the Tinian Mayor's Office at 1 (670) 433-1802 or email.joesntiq@gmail.com, the 17th Municipal Council at 1 (670) 433-3470, or MVA field office supervisor Vida Borja at vborja@mymarianas.com or 1-(670) 433-9365. (MVA)



Indigenous Chamorro mythology marks the House of Taga on the island of Tinian as the home of the legendary Chamorro chief, Taga.

## UOG School of Nursing dean wins Nurse of the Year Award



UO

From left, Glynis Almonte, executive director, Guam Nurses Association; Rose Grino, president, Guam Nurses Association; Sen. Therese Terlaje; Margaret Hattori-Uchima, dean, UOG School of Nursing & Health Sciences; and Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero.

Margaret Hattori-Uchima, dean of the University of Guam School of Nursing & Health Sciences, was awarded the 2019 GNA Nurse of the Year Award on May 5 at the 68th Annual Guam Nurses Association Anniversary, Recognition, and Awards Banquet.

Hattori-Uchima has been a nurse educator at UOG for more than 17 years and a Registered Nurse for 34 years. She has led the nursing program to many accomplishments, including the improvement of the graduates' NCLEX pass rate to 100% for the past three years, and

has co-authored several grant applications to bring in additional funds and learning experiences for the school. She has been an active member of the Guam Homeless Coalition since 2009 as well as a member of several other professional organizations and honor societies. (PR)

# IPI's chair sells off shares to fund Saipan project

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC chair and executive director Cui Li Jie has offloaded almost 10% of the company in order to raise funds for development of its Saipan integrated resort.

IPI announced on Tuesday that its majority shareholder, Inventive Star Limited, which is 100%-owned by Cui, had reached an agreement with Guan Lian Capital Holdings Group Ltd. to purchase 14 billion shares, representing around 9.79% of IPI's issued share capital.

The transaction will see Inventive Star's stake fall from 63.47% to 53.68%.

In its filing, IPI said that all proceeds from the sale will be offered as loans to the company "to expand the construction and development on the island of Saipan."

Cui's disposal comes just 48 hours after it was revealed that IPI has brought in almost 100 construction workers from Italy to help complete its delayed Imperial Palace Saipan. IPI recently requested another extension to its deadline for completion of Imperial Palace Saipan from Feb. 28, 2021, to Aug. 21, 2022. (https://www.asgam.com)

#### NEWS BRIEFS

# New Philippine passports being released

The Philippine Consulate General in Guam, in coordination with the Office of Honorary Consul Eli Arago, is releasing passports to those who renewed their passport last May 22, 23, and 24, 2019. You can pick up the new passports at the Finasisu Terraces, Bldg. D, second floor, at the top of the Mini-Mart, Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm (12pm to 1pm breaktime).

Please bring your old passport and receipt. If someone will pick up, need authorization letter from the applicant/s. For any inquiry or details call Mel Santos at 233-6293. (PR)

## Cabrera lands on Hollins' dean's list

ROANOKE, Va.—Gedin Auria Cabrera, a sophomore psychology major at Hollins University, has been named to the dean's list for the 2019 spring semester. To attain this distinction, students must earn at least a 3.5 average on a 4.0 grading scale.

A graduate of Kagman High School, Cabrera is the child of Steven and Geraldine Cabrera of Saipan.

Hollins is an independent liberal arts university offering undergraduate education to women, selected graduate programs for men and women, and community outreach initiatives. Its distinctions include a nationally ranked creative writing program, one of the oldest study abroad programs in the country, and extensive internship opportunities. *(PR)* 

## BMV closed at 3:30pm today

The Bureau of Motor Vehicle will be closed today, July 11, from 3:30pm through 4:30pm, for a staff briefing relating to immigration and the Real I.D. Act amendment. BMV will reopen the following day, July 12, to resume normal department operations. (*PR*)

# Survivors, caregivers support meeting today

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting today, July 11, starting at 5:30pm at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. Guest speaker is Dr. Peter B. Brett, who is an oncologist at the Commonwealth Health Center. To RSVP or for more information, call the CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamari-

## DMS registration now open

anas@gmail.com. (PR)

Dandan Middle School would like to remind all new and returning students that registration for school year 2019-2020 is open. All students must register for the new school year. Classes will resume on Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2019.

To be officially registered, the following documents must be submitted: complete registration form (with a map to the school, updated addresses and telephone numbers, contact information; health clearance card (blue card); student insurance. (PR)

# USCIS reps at July SHRM meeting today

The membership meeting of the Society for Human Resource Management NMI Chapter today, July 11, 2019, will feature U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services representatives who will talk about the E-Verify program and form I-9. The meeting will take place at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's ballroom beginning at 11am.

Rea Bisa, USCIS management and program analyst, Kamana Mathur, USCIS community relations officer, and Jennifer Lane, regional community relations lead, will do a 30-minute presentation followed by a 30-minute question-and-answer session.

This meeting is open to the public. The presentation includes a lunch buffet at the cost of \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Penny Jones by e-mail at penelope. jones@hyatt.com or Denise Montenegro at denise.montenegro@hyatt.com or by telephone at 323-5867/68. (PR)

## **BoG Saipan branches** closed on Saturday

Bank of Guam's Saipan branches will be closed this Saturday, July 13, 2019. The bank's ATMs, online banking, and customer support centers remain available. (*PR*)



#### **DOWN UNDER**

From left, Kate Ishida and Saipan Pacific winds members Ted Parker and Atsuko Eck perform with the Tumon Bay Orchestra at the Sydney Opera House last July 7.



#### **VISITING ROTARIAN**

Rotary Club of Saipan secretary Tatiana Babuta, left, and Coronado Rotary of San Diego member Dan'l Steward pose for a photo after the banner presentation at the club's regular Tuesday meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

MARC A. VENUS



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**LOCATION(S):** Water & Wastewater Engineering Division, <u>Saipan</u>, Northern Mariana Islands, USA. **SALARY:** \$40,084.00 per annum, Exempt (Commensurate with qualification and experience)

POSITION(S): One (1)

**CONTRACT:** Two (2) years, subject to renewal

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil or Environmental Engineering and 4 years of work related engineering experience. Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering is also acceptable if candidate has four years of experience engineering water and/or wastewater systems. Knowledge of: Engineering principles and practices; mathematical, pumping and hydraulics, and wastewater conveyance and treatment concepts; project management principles; construction techniques; safe work practices; applicable Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations. Skill in: Interpreting and applying Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; reading, understanding, and preparing drawings for construction contracts; preparing a variety of technical reports and/or documentation; presenting technical information to management, public groups, and other related individuals; interpreting and preparing specifications; estimating construction costs; conducting studies. Able to use computers and related software applications; communicate, interact with co-workers, supervisor, contractors, representatives of other agencies and departments, and the general public to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction; use AutoCAD to prepare plans for utility projects and contracts is a plus. Registration as an Engineer-In-Training in the CNMI, Guam, or any State of the United States is preferred but not required. Applicants licensed as a Professional Engineer in the CNMI, Guam, or any State of the United States is encouraged to apply. Applicants may be tested and subject to pre-employment drug testing.

You may submit your CUC Employment Application and/or resume at the Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota can drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration office. Application and resume can also be e-mailed to: <a href="mailto:employment.applications@cucgov.org">employment.applications@cucgov.org</a>

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10 THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2019 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# **Opinion**



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#### **EDITORIAL**

# Boom time: When the stock market does reflect the real economy

t's often said that the stock market is not the real economy, meaning: Wall Street traders make educated guesses about the future, so don't read too much into this or that moment's results. Stocks bounce around. GDP numbers, hiring and other data better reflect the nation's health.

But if the stock market isn't the real economy, it's real life for tens of millions of Americans who have 401(k), IRA or other retirement savings. If you're one of those people, check your mailbox or online account for second-quarter results to get a satisfying jolt: Your balance is rising. Because the economy continues to grow, and add jobs at a fast clip, 10 years into a record expansion. At this juncture, the stock market reflects the real economy.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index shot upward by 17% in the first half of 2019, the best result since 1997. The Dow Jones industrial average is up about 15% this year. This continues a prosperous streak for the markets since President Donald Trump was elected, vowing policies that would goose the prior steady but staid growth. From Election Day 2016 to July 2019, the Dow is up about 47%, the S&P 40%. With dividends reinvested, the Dow has risen at an annualized rate of 17.3%, the S&P 14.7%.

About those real-life implications: It's not just the wealthy who benefit. Gallup polling suggests that about 54% of Americans own stocks either directly or via mutual funds, pension accounts and other retirement kitties.

As of this month, the U.S. is in the longest economic expansion in U.S. history, surpassing the 1990s. The growth spurt began with the June 2009 end of the Great Recession. Stocks rebounded from devastating lows a few months earlier, delivering President Barack Obama a sensational result—a 149% jump in the Dow—over his eight years in office.

Ten years is a long time to sustain growth, yet under Trump the economy keeps going, and stocks keep rising—despite Trump's ill-advised trade fights with China and Mexico. On Friday, the Labor Department said the U.S. created 224,000 new jobs in June—well above economists' expectations. Wages grew 3.1% over the past year. The unemployment rate crept up to 3.7%, from 3.6%, and remains at or near historic lows for America's minority groups. A quirk of the calculation: The jobless rate rose because more Americans have gone looking for work. One serious concern: More people paying taxes helps the government's balance sheet, but without spending restraint from a profligate president and Congress, that alone won't relieve a national debt that also continues to expand.

See BOOM on Next Page



# Political leanings can't be reduced to genes

ncreasingly, the intellectual consensus seems to be that our political leanings are hardwired in our genes. There is some excellent research behind this thinking, and I've come around to believing that DNA plays a bigger role in our political worldviews than many on the right or left are willing to accept.

But we also shouldn't get carried away. We're more than our genes, and we shouldn't reduce our political orientations to the sort of essentialism that has taken over identity politics.

Take author Sebastian Junger's recent essay for the Washington Post. In it, he suggested that the way out from our politically polarized dysfunction is to recognize that maybe conservatives and liberals are just born that way.

I don't dispute the research he cites, just his conclusions.

"If liberalism and conservatism are partly rooted in genetics, then those worldviews had to have been adaptive—and necessary—in our evolutionary past," Junger writes. "That means that neither political party can accuse the other of being illegitimate or inherently immoral; we are the way we are for good reason."

Who says? I'm a big fan of Junger, but I don't see it. There are all sorts of genetically influenced traits that we condemn. Genes play a big role in male violence, including rape and murder, but we rightly condemn both. Part of what makes civilization a meaningful concept is the way we train—i.e., civilize—people to conquer their more primal impulses.

Saying you can't condemn views if they're part of our evolutionary programming is a good example of the naturalistic fallacy that ascribes morality to nature. I'm also deeply skeptical that today's culture war combatants will suddenly lay down their weapons in an outpouring of acceptance if we can only convince them that their opponents were just born that way. Many atheists believe religion is an atavistic impulse rooted in our genes. That insight hasn't always made them more tolerant of religion.

Another problem with this sort of argument is that it rolls right over important context by reducing complex political arrangements to mere gene expression among subpopulations.

Junger says, defensibly: "Every human society must do two things: It must be strong enough to protect itself from outside groups, and it must be fair enough to avoid internal conflict." He assigns the former task to conservatives, who want to protect the nation, and the latter to liberals, who are dedicated to equality and "social justice." Other versions of this argument often reduce conservatives and liberals to "hardwired" opponents of change or champions of it.

Obviously, there's something here. But the reality is that such divides run straight through the human heart. Our genetic pro-

#### By JONAH GOLDBERG

Tribune News Service

Jonah Goldberg's latest book, Suicide of the West, is now available wherever books are sold. You can write to him in care of this newspaper or by e-mail at goldbergcolumn@gmail.com, or via Twitter @JonahNRO.



gramming may tell some of us to obsess over social justice and others to fixate on external threats, but most of us care about both.

Most conservatives worm about social sobosion and equal.

Most conservatives worry about social cohesion and equality, and most liberals care about external dangers, but each side works from different definitions and assumptions over how to define the problems—and how to solve them.

And then there's the definitional thicket. During the Cold War, the most dedicated and doctrinaire communists in the Soviet Politburo were often referred to as "conservatives." This vexed many American right-wingers. In America, anti-communism was at the heart of being a conservative, so could the hardest-line Soviets also be conservatives?

Well, yeah. In 1957, political scientist Samuel Huntington wrote a brilliant essay, "Conservatism as an Ideology." In it, he observed that "Conservatism differs from all other ideologies except radicalism: it lacks what might be termed a substantive ideal." In other words, what a conservative believes depends on where he or she lives, and what, exactly, he or she wishes to conserve. What Saudi Arabia's or North Korea's conservatives want to conserve is very different than what conservatives in the United States want to conserve.

More broadly, there's a vast amount of small "c" or "genetic" conservatism in contemporary progressivism and a great deal of radicalism in conservatism. That's because—for now at least—the right supports the market and the "creative destruction" it brings, while the left defends the regulatory state and the protections it provides. I'm called a conservative because I want to dismantle much of the New Deal, and Nancy Pelosi is called a progressive because she wants to defend it. But which of us is acting on some "conservative" genetic imperative to resist change?

It's becoming clear that our genetic programming makes persuasion more difficult than we once thought. But at the end of the day, it's all we've got. And persuasion becomes more difficult when we turn philosophical arguments into a mere appendage of a new form of identity politics.

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# Grieving the sudden death of a parent

hen unexpected death enters our world, we are years following her mother's unexpected death. caught off-guard and unprepared for the intense loss and agonizing pain. We did not get to say good-by to our loved one. In a mere second of time our lives are forever changed. We struggle to do daily life without our person.

The following are excerpts from a website called Grief Out Loud where grievers tell their stories. You can listen to short clips of these conversations in a series of mini-episodes. I highly recommend this resource (www.deardougy.libsyn.com)

"For Camila, death came barreling into her world with zero warning. When she was 21 her world shifted on its axis on an average morning in September. She woke up in the house she shared with her mother in the Bay Area, expecting just another day. Then she went to check on her mother, only to find that she had died in her sleep. There were no warning signs. No indicators that anything was amiss. Her mom was there and then she wasn't. In the nine years since that morning, Camila has grieved intensely and intently. She's searched for connections with her mother, finding an outlet for expression in writing." The Progression of Grief: A Collection of Poems (2017) is a selfpublished book by Camila Martin. The author takes us on an intimate journey through her experience of grief over the seven

Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

"Five years ago Sarah was 23, doing what a lot of 23-year-olds do-working, hanging out with friends, starting life as a 'real' adult, and living at home with her mom and dad. Then, on a totally average day in May, Sarah walked into the house to find that her mom had an aortic aneurysm. The paramedics came and she was rushed to the hospital where she died later that night. How do you go from being in one world—the world where your person is alive and washing dishes and folding laundry and calling your name down the hall—to another where this person no longer exists in their physical form? How do your brain and body and spirit even begin to make sense of that? Sarah talks about the extremely close relationship she had with her mother and how she worked to bridge this before and after world of grief."

"In 2017, pop singer-songwriter Neil Davis was about to release his second album when his father died suddenly of cardiac arrest. In that moment, everything in Neil's world changed, including his album release plans. A few months ago in March of 2019, Neil released a new single, Not Better, which explores the heartbreak of grief and the questions we are left with when someone dies. Questions about gone-ness and what does the term better actually mean when it comes to grief?"

A sudden death is an unanticipated death. While sudden deaths

By MELISSA MARTIN, PH.D.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Melissa Martin, Ph.D., is an author, columnist, educator, and therapist. She lives in the U.S.



have very different causes, what unites them all is that they are unforeseen. The people bereaved by these deaths have no time to prepare for their loss. Bereavement consequently comes as a shock; a bolt from the blue. Download their free PDF guide about coping with sudden death at www.suddendeath.org.

It is hard to comprehend that your parent, who has always been there, is now gone. There were so many things you did together or had hoped to do with them. Now you must adjust to a new way of perceiving the world (www.ourhouse-grief.org).

My mother also died unexpectedly. And maybe your parent died unexpectedly as well. Nonetheless, our parent lives on in our memories, our DNA, and through our children.

# My Latinx students write what they know. And their words are powerful

By MARCOS M. VILLATORO

LOS ANGELES TIMES

he first college class I taught was Introduction to Creative Writing. I asked the students to write a personal essay on an incident that had a profound effect on them. Many wrote about family life, a beloved grandmother who died, a bully in middle school and other subjects you'd expect from young college students. But Veronica's essay was different. It began with, "I was two, and sitting on my father's shoulders when the National Guard shot into the crowd."

She wrote about the day of Archbishop Oscar Romero's funeral in El Salvador in 1980, when she was 2 years old. A rightwing death squad had murdered the priest, who often spoke out against the state-sanctioned violence against the Salvadoran people. Romero had become a leader and an advocate for the poor and oppressed of his country. This got him killed.

Veronica wrote about the ocean of people who had attended his funeral. They couldn't all fit in the cathedral. She and her father stood in the plaza outside, alongside over 100,000 other mourners. Her father had just lifted her to his shoulders when the first bombs went off. Army sharpshooters on roofs shot into the crowd. Veronica fell from her father's shoulders. From her toddler's perspective, the legs of the people surrounding her resembled a moving forest. She remembered the roar of screams. Her father snatched her up and pushed his way into the cathedral, where others brought in the bodies of the dozens of El Salvadorans who had been killed or wounded.

This was one of the first essays I graded as a new professor at what is now Mount St. Mary's University in Los Angeles, which stands on a mountain above Brentwood and overlooks all of the city and the Pacific Ocean. With its Spanish architecture and manicured grounds that look like the floor of heaven had fallen onto the Earth, it might appear to be a college for the elite, where

#### BOOM

From Page 10

By cutting taxes and removing regulatory burdens, Trump's administration has given private sector business owners confidence to invest in future growth—and to hire more employees. If he can resolve trade fights that have hurt Illinois farmers and raised the cost of doing business for many Illinois companies, he'll help the economy and the markets extend their growth curves.

No, the stock market isn't the economy. But it's an important source of income and retirement security for many Americans. And for those who don't own stocks, the expanding jobs market continues to offer real hope.

only the wealthy attend.

Far from it. Many of my students are from Mexico, Central America, Compton and East L.A. Part of the university's mission is to open its doors to those who have little access to higher education—the poor and working class. Ours is a largely brown student body. As college students in the U.S., the Latinx students in my creative writing classes have unique and rare stories to tell.

Veronica wrote that essay in 1998, when she was 21. She didn't write much about the politics of the time—the fact that the U.S. government was sending almost \$2 million a day to the Salvadoran military, the same military that sent death squads to kill civilians they deemed to be communists. Hers was a first-person account of a massacre, witnessed by a child.

Before sitting down to grade a batch of essays, I always brace myself. Grading papers is usually the most dreadful part of a professor's job, but my students' essays are often loaded with stories of injustice. Many are as powerful, and disturbing, as Veronica's.

More recently, border-crossing essays are front and center. "I crossed the border when I was four. My mother and I crouched inside a hidden compartment in the floor of the bus." "My parents came because of the gangs and death threats in El Salvador." "I want to go to the protests for immigrant rights, but I'm DACA. They might catch me and take me away." "ICE hit our apartments and took my neighbors, I felt helpless because I couldn't do anything."

These stories have proliferated since 2016, when it became clear that, under the new U.S. president, their lives as Latinx people were about to get harder. They write about the pain of racial slurs and accusations—about how they are called rapists, murderers and marauders who threaten U.S. national security. There is

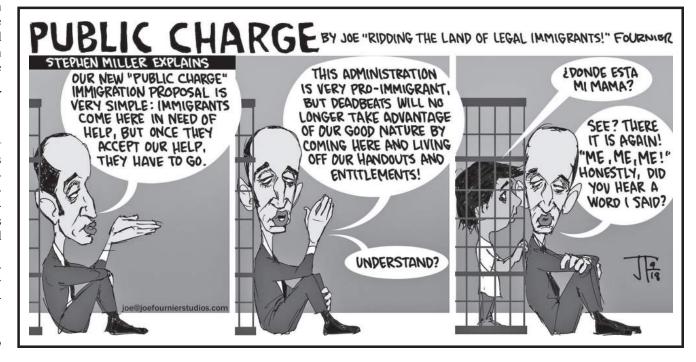
fear in their words but also anger, a recognition of the injustices of our times. They have a solid grasp of the political winds blowing against them, and most essays end with a barbaric yawp, a sense of "I'll be damned if I let that guy in the White House bring me down." Some write about becoming lawyers so they can fight for immigration rights. Others plan to run for office. Many simply commit themselves to the fight, through protests and voting.

Their writings also delve into dark territory. "Why do they hate us so much?" "Why are more people turning against us?" "Will this ever end?" These are brave essays, for it takes courage to explore the hate that rises from racism.

When I read their words it feels as though I'm holding their very lives in my hands. Long ago I realized I couldn't merely give them notes on their grammar or quickly comment about the theme. Their papers are returned with my own mini-essays on them, a reflection on what they've dared to write. These students, at such young ages, have endured more tragedies than many of us will experience in our lifetimes: poverty, homelessness, deportation, persecution. They deserve more than a "good job" or "interesting story." They deserve to be heard. They deserve to be read.

It can be emotionally exhausting to grade these essays, but it is also a great privilege. Writing about pain is in itself a bold act. My students suffer; they sometimes are afraid. And they are some of the most courageous people I know. I can see them as activists, leaders, lawyers and walking the halls of Congress. It's easy to imagine, given the strength of their words.

Marcos M. Villatoro teaches creative writing at Mount St. Mary's University.



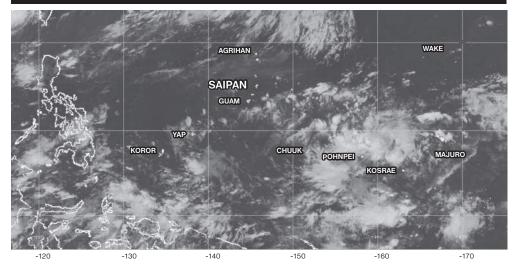
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# The Weather

#### 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN **TODAY FRIDAY** SUNDAY **MONDAY** SATURDAY Partly cloudy with isolated Mostly cloudy. Partly sunny with isolated Partly cloudy with isolated Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph. Isolated showers and **79º** 79° **89º 79º 79º** 8go 900 <u>90</u>0

#### YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



#### PICTURE TIME: 7:00 AM, WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2019 Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180

Light winds will prevail across the islands again today, resulting in island convection again this afternoon. Cloud cover and showers will increase over the islands this afternoon, though showers are expected to remain isolated. Local rainfall amounts of up to one half inch are possible. PWAT has increased on the latest sounding to 2.09 inches. Therefore, maintained a slight chance of afternoon thunderstorms as well. Drier conditions will return for this evening and continue through the day on Thursday. By Thursday night, the developing monsoon trough is expected to move closer to the islands, bringing increasing showers and isolated thunderstorms to the region. This will continue through Friday night. Latest model guidance is now indicating a break in the dry pattern for the Marianas next week. As of now, only introducing increased cloudiness on Tuesday for now. However, this may change over the next couple of days. This is signaling a possible end to the dry season and finally moving into a needed wet pattern for the region.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

<b>MICRONESI</b>	A	<b>▲</b> ▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	88° / 80°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°

Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°
AROUND TH	E GLOBE	<b>≜</b> ▼°F
Auckland	Showers	61° / 48°
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	91° / 70°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	90° / 84°
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	88° / 76°
London	Showers	79° / 61°
Los Angeles	Sunny	82° / 67°
Manila	Thunderstorms	86° / 81°
Melbourne	Showers	55° / 45°
Miami	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
New York	Showers	86° / 75°
Osaka	Showers	84° / 72°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	82° / 61°
Busan	Rain	75° / 70°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	88° / 66°
Salem	Thunderstorms	89° / 73°
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	65° / 54°
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	84° / 68°
Tokyo	Rain	72° / 66°
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms	88° / 74°



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www.nmicrimestoppers.net

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■*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
I og on to the internet at

TIDES: SAIP	AN HARBOR TO	DAY FEET
2:37 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.17
9:45 AM	LOW TIDE	0.50
4:01 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.65
9:17 PM	LOW TIDE	1.06

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5:50am 8:40am

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Daily

Daily

1201

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3. 5. 7

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET	
Today	5:53 AM	6:51 PM	
Friday	5:53 AM	6:51 PM	
Saturday	5:53 AM	6:51 PM	
Sunday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM	
Monday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM	

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	1:05 AM	1:52 PM
Friday	-	1:49 AM	2:46 PM
Saturday	-	2:34 AM	3:41 PM
Sunday	-	3:22 AM	4:36 PM
Monday	-	4:11 AM	5:30 PM

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7C3451	4:00am	7:00am	3	7C3452		3:05am+1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3452	10:05pm	3:05am+1	4
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MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
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OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
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UA117/183		8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA192/174		8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA117/183		9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/174		8:12am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	UA184/174		8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM
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Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA:

Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

UO42

9:25pm 4:20am+1 2, 4, 6

5:45PM

6:45PM

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Daily

#### STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC. 9:00AM 9:15AM 1203 Daily **SAIPAN TO ROTA** 1204 10:00AM 10:15AM Daily FLIGHT# DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY 11:15AM 1205 11:00AM Daily 1301 7:30AM 8:00AM Daily 1206 12:00PM 12:15PM Daily 1302 11:30AM 12:00PM Daily 1207 1:00PM 1:15PM Daily 1303 4:00PM 4:30PM Daily 1208 2:00PM 2:15PM Daily 3:15PM 1209 3:00PM Daily **ROTA TO SAIPAN** 1210 4:00PM 4:15PM Daily FLIGHT # DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY 1211 5:00PM 5:15PM Daily 8:45AM 3101 8:15AM Daily 1212 6:00PM 6:15PM Daily 2:15PM 3102 1:45PM Dally 3103 4:45PM 5:15PM Daily **TINIAN TO SAIPAN** DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY FLIGHT# **ROTA TO GUAM** 7:30AM 7:45AM 2102 Daily DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY 8:30AM 8:45AM 2103 Daily 3401 12:15PM 12:45PM Daily 2104 9:30AM 9:45AM Daily 2105 10:30AM 10:45AM Daily **GUAM TO ROTA** 2106 11:30AM 11:45AM Daily DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY 12:45PM 2107 12:30PM Daily 1:30PM 4301 1:00PM Daily 2108 1:30PM 1:45PM Daily 2109 2:30PM 2:45PM Daily **SAIPAN TO TINIAN** 3:30PM 3:45PM 2110 Daily DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY 2111 4:30PM 4:45PM Daily

2112

2113

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2019 **13** 

# Business



# Beat the tropical heat at Panda House

By BEA CABRERA beecabbie@gmail.com CORRESPONDENT

Since opening in February this year, Panda House (formerly Wowfull Waffles) has been setting off waves with flavored waffles and creating a reputation for helping beat the island heat.

Waffle-maker and barista Jefferson Mateo said their waffles are unique and not found anywhere else on island. "Our waffles and the available flavors are what sets us apart. It is a different offering on the island. Our milk tea is authentic in flavor, taste and our [tapioca] pearls are always fresh."

The outlet also has a line of specialty desserts, from their bestselling mini-and regular waffles, to cones, regular and soft-serve ice cream.

Panda House also has frappes, milk teas, smoothies, and frappuccinos, and they also serve different kinds of coffee and hot tea, said manager Krystel Heddy Encinares.

Their waffle flavors include vanilla, matcha, chocolate, and strawberry. "We also get creative with our waf-



Panda House waffle maker/barista Jefferson Mateo and supervisor Samantha Salomon enjoy serving new and regular customers at Panda House.

fles," she said. On special occasions, Panda House comes up with themed waffles "which we recently did for Liberation Day."

Their initial target market was the youth. "We achieved that and later on they started brining in parents and

visit at Panda House a family affair,' Encinares said.

The store's busiest days are Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.

On Sundays, people go there after Mass, making it a family affair for

fles," she said. On special occasions, siblings. That eventually made every desserts and quality time.

"Our store is strong in quality standards compliance and we aim for customer satisfaction all the time. Our regular customers are now like family," said Panda House supervisor Samantha Salomon, who is in charge of quality assurance and customer service.

The place has also become a "nightcap" place for people after dinner and before going home.

The atmosphere at Panda House is conducive to family time, friends hanging out, and even corporate meetings. "Our shop is located in Garapan, offers convenient parking, comfortable seating, WiFi, and we have games like 'jenga,' Encinares said.

The owner of Panda House is Ming Sheu, who used to manage the Sharks Fin Restaurant in Chalan Kanoa. Right now, she is busy with Panda House and the grocery store beside it.

Future plans for Panda House include making available the "boat waffle," which is meant to be shared by three people, opening Panda House at 7am to cater to coffee lovers to start their day before they go to work, and to add more food items in the menu that will go well with the desserts and drinks they already have.

Panda House is open Monday to Sunday, from 10am to 10pm. For more information, call (670)233-5527.

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Canadian Dollar 1.31
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Hong Kong Dollar	7.81
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Japanese Yen	108.85
Malaysian Ringgit	4.10
New Zealand Dollar	1.51
Philippine Peso	50.50

Russian Ruble	63.52
Singapore Dollar	1.36
South Korean Won	1,161.56
Swiss Franc	0.99
Taiwan Dollar	30.61
Thailand Baht	30.82

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2019 **15** 

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# **Nation**

# Judge blocks govt lawyers from quitting census fight

Justice Department can't replace nine lawyers so late in the dispute over whether to add a citizenship question to the 2020 census without explaining why they are doing so, a judge said Tuesday.

U.S. District Judge Jesse M. Furman, who earlier this year ruled against adding the citizenship question, put the brakes on the government's plans a day after he was given a three-paragraph notification by the Justice Department along with a prediction that

won't "cause any disruption in this matter."

"Defendants provide no reasons, let alone 'satisfactory reasons,' for the substitution of counsel," Furman wrote, noting that the most immediate deadline for government lawyers to submit written arguments in the case is only three days away.

The judge said local rules for federal courts in New York City require that any attorney requesting to leave a case provide satisfactory reasons for

the replacement of lawyers withdrawing. The judge must then decide what impact a lawyer's withdrawal will have on the timing of court proceedings.

> He called the Justice Department's request "patently deficient," except for two lawyers who have left the department or the civil division which is handling the case.

President Donald Trump tweeted about the judge's decision Tuesday night, questioning whether the attorney change denial was unprecedented.

"So now the Obama appointed judge on the Census case (Are you a Citizen of the United States?) won't let the Justice Department use the lawyers that it wants to use. Could this be a first?" Trump tweeted.

The new team came about after a top Justice Department civil attorney who was leading the litigation effort told Attorney General William Barr that multiple people on the team preferred not to continue, Barr told The Associated Press on Monday.

The attorney who was leading the team, James Burnham, "indicated it was a logical breaking point since a new decision would be made and the issue going forward would hopefully be separate from the historical debates," Barr said.

Furman's refusal came in a case that has proceeded on an unusual legal path since numerous states and municipalities across the country challenged the government's announcement early last year that it intended to add the citizenship question to the census for the first time since 1950.

Opponents of the question say it will depress participation by immigrants, lowering the population count in states that tend to vote Democratic and decreasing government funds to those areas because funding levels are based on population counts.

At one point, the Justice Department succeeded in getting the Supreme Court to block plans to depose Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross. Nearly two weeks ago, the Supreme Court temporarily blocked the plans to add the census question, saying the administration's justification for adding the question "seems to have been contrived."

Afterward, the Commerce Department's Census Bureau began printing census questionnaires without the question and the Department of Justice signaled it would not attempt to continue the legal fight.

It reversed itself after Trump promised to keep trying to add the question.

The Justice Department then notified judges in three similar legal challenges that it planned to find a new legal path to adding the question to



In this June 27, 2019, file photo, demonstrators gather at the Supreme Court as the justices finish the term with key decisions on gerrymandering and a census case involving an attempt by the Trump administration to ask everyone about their citizenship status in the 2020 census, on Capitol Hill in Washington.

## Colorful self-made billionaire H. Ross Perot dies at 89

DALLAS (AP)—H. Ross Perot, the colorful, self-made Texas billionaire who rose from a childhood of Depression-era poverty and twice mounted outsider campaigns for president, has died. He was 89.

The cause of death was leukemia, a family spokesman said Tuesday.

Perot, whose 19% of the vote in 1992 stands among the best showings by an independent candidate in the past century, died early Tuesday at his home in Dallas surrounded by his family, said the spokesman. James Fuller.

As a boy in Texarkana, Texas, Perot delivered newspapers from the back of a pony. He earned his billions in a more modern fashion, however. After attending the U.S. Naval Academy and becoming a salesman for IBM, he went his own way—creating and building Electronic Data Systems Corp., which helped other companies manage their computer networks.

The most famous event in his business career didn't involve sales and earnings, however. In 1979, he financed a private commando raid to free two EDS employees who were being held in a prison in Iran. The tale was turned into a book and a movie.

"I always thought of him as stepping out of a Norman Rockwell painting and living the American dream," said Tom Luce, who was a young lawyer when Perot hired him to handle his business and personal legal work. "A newspaper boy, a midshipman, shaking Dwight Eisenhower's hand at his graduation, and he really built the computer-services industry at EDS."

"He had the vision and the tenacity to make it happen," Luce said. "He was a great communicator. He never employed a speechwriter—he wrote all his own speeches. He was a great storyteller."

Perot first attracted attention beyond business circles by claiming that the U.S. government left behind hundreds of American soldiers who were missing or imprisoned at the end of the Vietnam War. Perot fanned the issue at home and discussed it privately with Vietnamese officials in the 1980s, angering the Reagan administration, which was formally negotiating with Vietnam's government.

Perot's wealth, fame and confident prescription for the nation's economic ills propelled his 1992 campaign

against President George H.W. Bush and Democratic challenger Bill Clinton. In June of that year, a Gallup poll showed Perot leading his major-party rivals, but he dropped out in July, then rejoined the race less than five weeks before the election.

Perot spent \$63.5 million of his own money, much of it on 30-minute television spots during which he used charts and graphs to make his points, summarizing them with a line that became a national catchphrase: "It's just that simple."

His homespun quips were a hallmark of his presidential campaign. Other memorable lines included his take on negative campaigning ("let's get off mud wrestling") and on getting things done ("don't just sit here slow dancing for four years").

#### Outrage over killing of black teen over rap music complaint

PHOENIX (AP)—Hundreds of people including a presidential candidate spoke out on Twitter this week after a 17-year-old black youth was killed at suburban convenience store, allegedly by a white man charged Tuesday with first-degree murder who has said he felt threatened by the boy's rap music.

Family members have told local media that Elijah Al-Amin would have turned 18 in two weeks and was looking forward to his last year in high school.

Friends and family hugged Monday at the Islamic Community Center in Tempe, where prayers for the youth were held before burial in Maricopa County.

A modest makeshift memorial outside the convenience store where Al-Amin was stabbed was still erected on Tuesday, with a pair of white porcelain angels, fresh flowers and burning calendars-including one dedicated to the Virgin of Guadalupe, the Catholic patron saint of Mexico.

The Maricopa County Attorney's Office said it filed a direct complaint Tuesday charging Michael Adams, 27, in the Thursday morning killing. First-degree murder carries a sentence of life behind bars or death.

Adams is next scheduled to appear in court July 15.

The Twitter hashtag #JusticeForElijah began trending over the Independence Day weekend after police in the suburban Phoenix city of Peoria arrested Adams. He had been released from state prison two days before.

"Another one of our children has been murdered in a heinous and unprovoked way the DOJ must investigate this hate crime immediately," Democratic candidate Cory Booker wrote on his Twitter account Monday. "RIP Elijah. #JusticeForElijah."

Linda Sarsour, a Palestinian American civil rights activist from Brooklyn, New York, called the crime "outrageous" and said it recalled the 2012 killing of 17-yearold high school student Jordan Davis in Jacksonville, Florida. "Rest in power Elijah Al-Amin," she wrote.

Michael Dunn, who is white, was later convicted of first-degree murder in that earlier killing, a shooting that erupted during an argument about loud music coming from a car carrying Davis and other black teenagers.

In the Arizona attack, first responders discovered Al-Amin collapsed outside the Peoria Circle K store's gas pumps and took him to a hospital, where he died. Several people inside the store had watched as Al-Amin was stabbed in the throat and the back before he ran outside.

Officers found Adams nearby with a pocket knife and blood on his body. Adams told them he had felt threatened by the rap music coming from Al-Amin's vehicle.

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# Asia

# China's largesse in Tonga threatens future of Pacific nation

NUKU'ALOFA, Tonga (AP)—The days unfold at a leisurely pace in Tonga, a South Pacific archipelago with no traffic lights or fast-food chains, and where snuffling pigs roam dusty roads.

Yet even in this far-flung island kingdom, there are signs a battle for power and influence is heating up among much larger nations—and Tonga may end up paying the price.

Government officials work in a shiny new office block that was an \$11 million gift from China. Dozens of bureaucrats take all-expensespaid training trips to Beijing each year. And China has laid out millions of dollars to bring Tongan athletes and coaches to a training camp in China's Sichuan province.

"The best facilities. The gym, the track, and a lot of equipment we don't have here in Tonga," said Tevita Fauonuku, the country's head athletic coach. "The accommo-



dation: lovely, beautiful. And the meals. Not only that, but China gave each and everyone some money. A per diem."

China also offered low-in-

terest loans after pro-democracy rioters destroyed much of downtown Nuku'alofa in 2006, and analysts say those loans could prove Tonga's un-

people owes about \$108 million to China's Export-Import bank, equivalent to about 25 percent of GDP.
Teisina Fuko, a 69-year-old

doing. The country of 106,000

former parliament member, suspects China finds his country's location useful. "I think Tonga is maybe a

"I think Tonga is maybe a window to the Western side," he said. "Because it's easy to get here and look into New Zealand, Australia."

"It's a steppingstone."

For decades, the South Pacific was considered the somewhat sleepy, backyard of Australia, New Zealand and the United States. Now, as China exerts increasing influence, Western allies are responding.

After Cyclone Gita destroyed Tonga's historic Parliament House last year, the government first suggested China might like to pay to rebuild it. Then Australia and

New Zealand stepped in and are now considering jointly funding the project.

Experts say the South Pacific could be important to China's navy or coveted for its fisheries, seabed minerals and natural resources. China is also engaged in an ongoing effort to lure away the few remaining countries that recognize Taiwan instead of China—several of them Pacific island nations.

"It's not entirely clear what China wants in the South Pacific," said professor Rory Medcalf, the head of the National Security College at Australian National University. "It's just clear that China is becoming very active and making its presence felt."

China has poured about \$1.5 billion in aid and low-interest loans into the South Pacific since 2011, putting it behind only Australia, according

In this Wednesday, April 10, 2019, photo, a man walks past a development site for a Chinese Investment bank in Nuku'alofa, Tonga.

to an analysis by Australian think-tank the Lowy Institute. And that figure rises to over \$6 billion when future commitments are considered.

Some worry the loans could become debt traps when nations can't repay.

China's ambassador to Tonga, Wang Baodong, said China has only benevolent intentions in Tonga and no hidden agenda. "Some people in the West are being over-sensitive and too suspicious," he said. "No need."

It's not just money that is flowing in from China. Chinese immigrants began arriving in the 1990s when Tonga started selling passports.

The idea was to attract wealthy Hong Kong residents hedging their bets ahead of the former British colony's return to China in 1997. Instead, they were snapped up by rural Chinese looking for a better life.

In a country with few jobs, Tongans worry that Chinese immigrants are now running most of the corner groceries and are expanding their business interests into farming and construction.

Wang acknowledges the criticism that Chinese immigrants run many businesses but said Tonga's leaders recognize the contribution they make and have even called on Tongans to learn from their hard-work ethic.

The real threat to Tonga's future may lie in its crippling loans from China. Repayments were due to start last year, and panic crept in.

#### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Hong Kong protesters to continue after bill declared 'dead'

HONG KONG (AP)—

Hong Kong protest leaders opposed to the administration of Chief Executive Carrie Lam said Tuesday that they will continue their demonstrations, even after Lam declared the effort to amend a highly contentious extradition bill "dead." Protesters are persisting in their demands for the bill to be formally withdrawn and an investigation opened into heavy-handed tactics used by police against demonstrators. Hundreds of thousands have joined the monthlong protests, expressing growing concerns about the steady erosion of civil rights in the semi-autonomous Chinese territory. "We cannot find the word 'dead' in any of the laws in Hong Kong or in any legal proceedings in the Legislative Council," protest leaders Jimmy Sham and Bonnie Leung said in statements in English and Cantonese. "So how can the government tell us that we should preserve our rule of law, when (Lam) herself does not use the principle of the rule of law," the two said. The protest leaders also said Lam was being hypocritical in claiming to have met demonstrators' demands without actually speaking to them directly. "Instead, she should really stand out and talk to the young protesters," Leung said. "The young protesters

have been out in the street

outside her house, outside government headquarters, for weeks, roaring to be heard."

#### Japan govt to pay damages to kin over

leprosy isolation

**TOKYO** (AP)—Japan's prime minister said Tuesday that the government will abide by a court ruling ordering it to compensate former leprosy patients' families over a lengthy segregation policy that severed family ties and caused long-lasting prejudice. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said the government will not appeal the Kumamoto District Court's decision in June awarding compensation to more than 500 plaintiffs for financial and psychological suffering due to discrimination in education, jobs and marriage. "The families have already gone through indescribable hardships, and we can't prolong that any further," Abe told reporters. He said part of the ruling was not acceptable to the government, but "It is an exceptional case, and we decided not to appeal." The plaintiffs welcomed the move, but opposition lawmakers raised skepticism about Abe's announcement, which came shortly before July 21 upper house elections. The 561 plaintiffs demanded 5.5 million yen (\$52,000) each for their suffering. The court ordered the government to pay 370 million yen (\$3.4 million) in damages to 541 of

the families. It said the government failed to end segregation until 1996, decades after leprosy, or Hansen's disease, became curable.

#### Indonesia returning 57 containers of developed world's waste

JAKARTA, Indonesia

(AP)—Indonesia is sending dozens of containers of waste back to wealthy nations after finding it was contaminated with used diapers, plastic and other materials, adding to a growing backlash in Southeast Asia against being a dumping ground for the developed world's rubbish. The Directorate General of Customs said Tuesday that 49 containers at Batam port near Singapore will be returned to Australia, the U.S., France, Germany and Hong Kong after inspections showed their contents violated Indonesian laws on the import of hazardous and toxic waste. Separately, the head of customs at East Java's Tanjung Perak port, Basuki Suryanto, said eight other containers with 210 tons of waste that arrived from Australia on June 20 were supposed to contain only paper but included other matter. "It turned out those containers also had household waste, used cans, plastic bottles, used oil packaging, used electronics, used baby diapers and used footwear. So we decided to return it to the country of origin," he said.

# More than 20 reportedly killed in PNG violence

CANBERRA, Australia

(AP)—More than 20 people including pregnant women and children have been killed in recent tribal violence in Papua New Guinea, media reported on Wednesday.

The death toll and dates of the violence in the remote highland province of Hela varied in reports by Australian Broadcasting Corp. and the Post-Courier newspaper.

Hela Gov. Philip Undialu told ABC the latest violence was on Monday when 16 people including women and children died at the village of Karida.

The killings were probably retaliation for an earlier attack that left around seven dead, Undialu said.

"This has escalated into the massacre of innocent women

and kids," Undialu said.

The Post-Courier, based in the South Pacific island nation's capital Port Moresby, reported as many as 24 people were killed in the villages of Karida and Peta since Saturday.

Six people had been ambushed and killed near Peta on Saturday, Hela Police Chief Inspector Teddy Augwi told the newspaper.

The victims' relatives retaliated with rifles the next day, killing between 16 and 18 people at Karida, including pregnant women, he said.

"This is not a tribal fight where the opposing villagers face each other on field," Augwi told the newspaper. "This is a fight in guerrilla warfare, meaning they play hide-and-seek and ambush their enemies."

Many villagers had fled the violence, Hela Administrator William Bando told the newspaper.

It was not immediately clear if any suspects had been arrested. Papua New Guinea Police spokesman Superintendent Dominic Kakas did not immediately respond to a request for comment on Wednesday.

Tribal violence is common in Papua New Guinea's interior, where villagers avenge relatives in retaliation known as payback.

Papua New Guinea Prime Minister James Marape said those responsible for the fatal attacks could face the death penalty, ABC reported.

The prime minister's office did not immediately respond to a request for comment on Wednesday. **18** THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2019 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# World

# Caught between US and Iran, Europe struggles with diplomacy

BERLIN (AP)—France on Tuesday sent a top diplomat to Tehran to urge Iran to scale back its recently increased uranium enrichment activities, a mission underscored by a call from Europe for the Islamic Republic to return to complying with the terms of the unraveling nuclear deal "without delay."

France, Britain and Germany, who remain a part of the 2015 nuclear accord along with Russia and China, said they planned to convene a meeting of the signatories amid "deep concern that Iran is not meeting several of its commitments.'

They said the meeting to address Iran's compliance with the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, or JCPOA as the deal is formally known, needed to be "convened urgently." but they did not say when that would happen.

"Iran has stated that it wants to remain within the JCPOA," the countries said in a statement. "It must act accordingly by reversing these activities and returning to full JCPOA compliance without delay."

Europe is under pressure from the U.S. to abandon the accord entirely, as Washington did unilaterally last year, and it also is being squeezed by Iran to offset the evercrippling effects of American economic sanctions.

That has left the Europesoft-power approach



In this Thursday, July 4, 2019, photo made available by U.S. Navy, two F/A-18 Super Hornets assigned to Carrier Air Wing (CWW 7) drop 1000-pound general-purpose bombs during an Independence Day air power demonstration next to the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln in Arabian Sea

strained to its limits at a time of increasing tensions in the Middle East.

"For the Europeans, it's going to be difficult not to lose credibility in their position with Iran and also with Washington, by not being too soft, but at the same time acknowledging that there is some truth to what Iran is saying," said Adnan Tabatabai, a political scientist with the Bonn-based CARPO think tank on Middle Eastern affairs.

They are forced to walk a fine line, trying not to escalate the situation on either side as they seek a resolution between Tehran and Washington, with French President Emmanuel Macron taking the lead for

the three European countries, known as the E3, said Sanam Vakil, a researcher with London-based Chatham House think tank.

"What the E3 can do is kick-start diplomacy and diplomatic conversations," she said. "They can potentially convince Iran to freeze its breach and prevent any further breaches, while shepherding a process back and forth between Washington and Iran-worst case scenarbut at least they've bought themselves time."

So far, neither Iran's announcement last week that it had exceeded the amount of low-enriched uranium allowed under the deal, nor Monday's revelation it had begun enriching uranium past the 3.67% purity allowed, to 4.5%, are seen as such gross violations that they are likely to prompt Europe to invoke the deal's dispute resolution mechanism. Both of Iran's actions have been verified by the U.N.'s nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency.

That mechanism is a month-long process, which could lead to the matter being brought before the U.N. Security Council and could result in the eventual "snapback" of sanctions that had been lifted under the deal.

"Iran's actions are still within the framework of calibrated escalation," Tabatabi said. "It gives some room for maneuver, and I would expect the Europeans to use this room over the next five or six weeks."

Experts warn that higher enrichment and a growing stockpile narrow the oneyear window Iran would need to have enough material for an atomic bomb, something Iran denies it wants but the deal prevented.

# UN says death toll from Libya fighting passes 1,000

**CAIRO** (AP)—The battle between rival militias for the Libyan capital has killed more than 1,000 people since it began in April, the U.N. said Tuesday, a grim milestone in a stalemated conflict partly fueled by regional powers.

Forces loyal to Khalifa Hifter, a veteran army officer, opened an offensive on Tripoli in early April, advancing on the city's southern outskirts and clashing with an array of militias loosely affiliated with the U.N.-recognized government.

Hifter's self-styled Libyan National Army is the largest and best organized of the country's many militias, and enjoys the support of Egypt, the United Arab Emirates and Russia. But it has faced stiff resistance from fighters aligned with the U.N.-recognized government, which is aided by Turkey and Qatar.

The World Health Organization said in a brief statement that 1,048 people have been killed since the offensive besays 5,558 have been wounded, including 289 civilians.

The battle lines have changed little since the offensive began, with both sides dug in and shelling one another in the southern reaches of the capital. Militias aligned with the government recently recaptured Gharyan, a town some 100 kilometers (60 miles) west of the city that is on a major supply route.

The fighting has emptied entire neighborhoods of civilians. Thousands of African migrants captured by Libyan forces supported by the European Union are trapped in detention centers near the front lines. An airstrike on one facility last week killed more than 50 people, mainly migrants held in a hangar that collapsed on top of them.

Libya slid into chaos after the 2011 uprising that toppled and killed long-ruling dictator Moammar Gadhafi. Armed groups have proliferated, and the country has emerged as

gan, including 106 civilians. It a major transit point for migrants fleeing war and poverty for a better life in Europe.

Hifter's supporters say he is the only leader who can end militia rule, reunite the country and keep it from being a safe haven for terrorists. They point to his success in defeating Islamic militants and other rival factions in eastern Libva over the past few years. Egypt and the UAE see him as a bulwark against the Muslim Brotherhood and other Islamists.

But his critics view him as an aspiring strongman, and his offensive appears to have at least temporarily united western Libya's fractious militias in opposition to a return to one-man rule. Many experts predicted at the start of the offensive that it was unlikely to succeed, noting widespread resistance to Hifter in the west and fractures within his own forces, which include Gadhafi-era army units, ultraconservative Islamists and tribal fighters.

**WORLD BRIEFS** 

io is that nothing happens,

Cairo's objections. The Britain-based auction house sold the brown quartzite head depicting King Tut for more than 4.7 million pounds (\$5.9) million). Egypt's National Committee for Antiquities Repatriation says in a statement late Monday that it hired a British law firm to file a lawsuit against Christie's, saying the auction house did not provide documents proving ownership. Christie's has denied any wrongdoing, saying it carried out "extensive due diligence" to verify the provenance of the statue and had "gone beyond what is required to assure legal title." The committee also criticized British authorities for not supporting its claim to the sculpture.

#### **Greece's new finance minister to** push ahead with tax cuts

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—Greece's new government will press ahead with tax cuts for households and businesses despite skepticism from creditors, the country's finance minister said Tuesday after he and his Cabinet colleagues were sworn in. Christos Staikouras' comments during a handover ceremony at the ministry came a day after Greece's creditors during the recent bailout years insisted key budget targets committed to by the country's outgoing government must be adhered to. Conservative party leader Kyriakos Mitsotakis won Sunday's election on pledges that included making the country more businesses-friendly, cutting taxes and negotiating an easing of draconian budget conditions agreed as part of the country's rescue program. His new Cabinet, which relies heavily on experienced politicians who have served in previous governments but also includes non-partisan technocrats considered experts in their fields, was sworn into office Tuesday. "Our central aim is to create the conditions for a high and sustainable development with healthy public finances and a stable banking sector," Staikouras said during the handover of the ministry from his predecessor, Euclid Tsakalotos.

#### Egypt asks Interpol to help it retrieve King Tut statue

CAIRO (AP)-Egypt says it has asked Interpol to help track down a 3,000-year-old sculpture of the famed boy pharaoh Tutankhamun after Christie's auctioned it off last week despite

#### Saudi Arabia says it intercepts bomb-laden Yemen rebel drone

**DUBAI**, United Arab Emirates (AP)—Saudi Arabia says it has intercepted a drone launched by Yemen's Houthi rebels targeting "civilian infrastructure" in the kingdom. The announcement on the state-run Saudi Press Agency early Tuesday did not identify what the drone targeted. The Houthi's Al-Masirah satellite television station said the Houthis sought to again target Abha regional airport, which they've hit several times in recent weeks, as well as a power station in Abha. Attacks on Abha's airport have wounded dozens and killed at least one person. The Houthis have stepped up launching bomb-laden drones in Saudi Arabia amid the kingdom's yearslong war in the country against them. The Iranian-backed rebel's campaign comes amid heightened tensions between Iran and the U.S. over the faltering nuclear deal with world powers.

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# Focus

By MICHAEL R. SISAK and JIM MUSTIAN

ASSOCIATED PRESS

EW YORK
(AP)—He has rubbed elbows with a prince and flown a former president on his private jet. He amassed a fortune that includes a 100-acre island in the Caribbean and one of the biggest mansions in New York.

He has donated tens of millions of dollars to Harvard and other causes, becoming a darling of professors and scientists—all without a college degree.

Jeffrey Epstein has long been an enigma, his ascent shrouded in mystery. Just how a middle-class Brooklyn math whiz became a Wall Street master of high finance with friends in very high places has been a subject of tabloid speculation for years.

Now, the details of Epstein's life and his alleged predilections are coming into sharper focus as federal prosecutors in New York pursue sex-trafficking charges accusing the 66-year-old billionaire of recruiting and abusing dozens of underage girls at his mansions in New York and Palm Beach, Florida, in the early 2000s.

Epstein, who pleaded not guilty Monday, could get up to 45 years in prison if convicted.

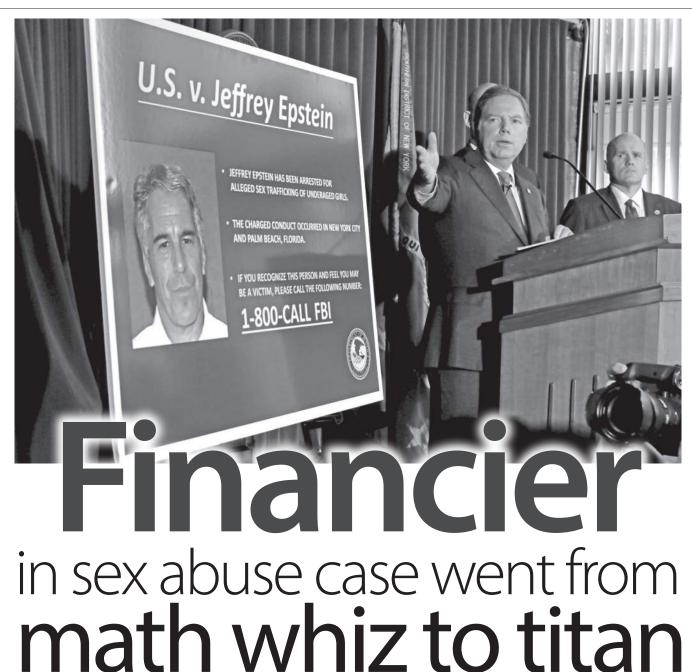
The financier avoided a potentially long prison sentence on nearly identical allegations more than a decade ago thanks to a once-secret agreement with federal prosecutors in Florida that has been widely criticized as a sweetheart deal.

In bringing charges this time, prosecutors in New York said a search of Epstein's Upper East Side mansion over the weekend yielded a vast trove of hundreds or even thousands of lewd photos of young women or girls.

Epstein's defense attorneys contend he never used violence or coerced any of the girls, and that his actions amount, at most, to soliciting prostitution. They say the charges should be dismissed in light of Epstein's earlier plea deal.

"This is ancient stuff," defense attorney Reid Weingarten said during a court appearance Monday.

Epstein has long obscured the source of his wealth. Even after his arrest, he refused to provide authorities with even basic information about his income and assets. His attorney said Epstein's lawyers intend to provide the information but want to make sure it is correct first.



This much is clear: "He is a man of nearly infinite means," federal prosecutor Alex Rossmiller said in court.

The somewhat reclusive Epstein splashed onto the international scene in 2002 after a New York tabloid reported he had lent his Boeing 727 to ferry former President Bill Clinton and other notables on an AIDS relief mission to Africa.

Profiles in New York magazine and Vanity Fair followed, establishing Epstein's reputation as an exorbitantly wealthy playboy and a stealthy Wall Street mover and shaker. Vanity Fair in 2003 described him holding court in his extravagant New York mansion with real estate tycoons, business executives and the scions of some of America's wealthiest families.

He was said to spend 75 minutes a day practicing yoga with a personal instructor and eschewed email for face-to-face conversations. Vanity Fair reported that he drank Earl Grey tea and didn't touch alcohol, tobacco or drugs.

Epstein also enjoyed surrounding himself with women much younger than him, including Russian models who attended his cocktail parties and beautiful women he flew

aboard his plane, according to the Vanity Fair profile.

His friends over the years have included Donald Trump, Britain's Prince Andrew and former Harvard law professor Alan Dershowitz.

"I've known Jeff for fifteen years. Terrific guy," Trump told New York magazine in 2002. "He's a lot of fun to be with. It is even said that he likes beautiful women as much as I do, and many of them are on the younger side. No doubt about it—Jeffrey enjoys his social life."

The writer of the Vanity Fair article, Vicky Ward, said Monday that she had also interviewed two girls who alleged Epstein tried to entice them into sexual activity, but that the magazine didn't run that part of story. Former editor Graydon Carter said it was cut because he "didn't have confidence" in Ward's reporting.

Epstein grew up in the Coney Island neighborhood of Brooklyn, the son of a New York City parks department employee.

He taught calculus and physics at the prestigious Dalton School, a prep school in Manhattan, from 1973 to 1975, despite not having a college degree. Attorney General William Barr's father, Donald Barr, was headmaster at the time.

Dalton graduate Paul Grossman said that he never had Epstein in class but that he was known among students as a math whiz.

"Everyone pretty much knew him as brilliant," said Grossman, who graduated in 1978. "None of us were surprised that when he left Dalton he made a zillion dollars in business."

William Barr has decided not to recuse himself from overseeing Epstein's case, a Justice Department official told The Associated Press on Tuesday. But Barr has withdrawn from taking part in any review of the 2008 deal in Florida because Barr's former law firm previously represented Epstein, the official said. The official was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Epstein left Dalton in the mid-1970s for a job at Bear Stearns at the urging of a student's father who arranged a meeting with the chairman of the investment bank, according to published reports. He later began his own moneymanagement business, J. Epstein & Co.

Epstein also forged a relationship with Leslie Wexner, the retail titan behind Victoria's Secret, The Limited and other store chains. He started managing Wexner's money in the late 1980s and helped straighten out the finances for a real estate development Wexner was backing in a wealthy Columbus, Ohio, suburb.

It was through Wexner that Epstein acquired his Manhattan mansion, a seven-story, 21,000-square-foot former prep school less than a block from Central Park. It has been valued at about \$77 million.

Wexner's relationship with Epstein soured around the time of the money man's Florida arrest, and Wexner severed ties with him nearly 12 years ago. Wexner has not commented on Epstein's latest arrest.

"Little is known or said about Epstein's business except this: He manages money for the extremely wealthy," the Palm Beach Post reported in 2006 after Epstein's legal troubles began there. "He is said to handle accounts only of \$1 billion or greater."

In 2008, he reached a nonprosecution agreement with federal prosecutors in Florida over allegations of sex with underage girls. He was al-

United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York Geoffrey Berman speaks during a news conference, in New York, Monday, July 8, 2019. Federal prosecutors announced sex trafficking and conspiracy charges against wealthy financier Jeffrey Epstein. Court documents unsealed Monday show Epstein is charged with creating and maintaining a network that allowed him to sexually exploit and abuse dozens of underage girls.

lowed to plead guilty to state charges of soliciting a minor for prostitution and served 13 months in jail. The deal also required that he reach financial settlements with dozens of his alleged victims.

Epstein nearly got another break in 2011, when the Manhattan District Attorney's office took the unusual step of asking a judge to register him as a lowest level sex offender so he wouldn't be required to check in with authorities every 90 days. Judge Ruth Pickholz balked, saying she had "never seen a prosecutor's office do anything like this," and the DA's office later reversed its position.

Federal prosecutors acknowledged Monday that the current charges overlap with the Florida case from more than a decade ago. But they said one count in the indictment is based entirely on New York victims.

Epstein spent most of his time in recent years in the Virgin Islands and regularly flew off to foreign destinations, making more than 20 trips in and out of the U.S. on his private jet in the last 18 months, according to prosecutors. He has six homes, including one in Paris, and two private planes.

Workers in Epstein's New York neighborhood said Tuesday that they rarely saw him, if at all, in recent years.

A bellman a few doors down who declined to give his name said he saw the billionaire leaving his mansion about three months ago with a woman who was covering her face. The bellman said he had seen multiple women going in and out maybe once every two weeks.

Michelle Licata, who says she had sexual encounters with Epstein when she was 16, welcomed his arrest.

"The first moment of finding out that Jeffrey Epstein was put in jail was so relieving to me I felt safer," she said Tuesday on ABC's "Good Morning America." "I've waited for this one day just to happen and it's finally come."

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# Environment

# As deaths mount, have right whales reached a 'tipping point'?

By DINAH VOYLES PULVER
THE NEWS-JOURNAL, DAYTONA BEACH, FLA

#### DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—

In February 2016, East Central Florida animal lovers were riveted by an endangered right whale nicknamed Clipper and her baby. Clipper gave birth to the calf off Florida's east coast, then found her way into Sebastian Inlet, giving many people their first look at two of the massive, endangered whales.

This week, right whale biologists and scientists gathered around her body on a distant beach at Grand Etang, Quebec. She is one of six whales found dead in June in Canada's Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Clipper's story illustrates the highs and lows of the efforts in the United States and Canada to save the critically endangered animals.

Jim Hain, senior scientist and program leader for the Marineland Right Whale Project, fears the whales may have reached "a tipping point."

A network of 200 volunteers in Volusia, Flagler and Brevard counties eagerly watch the ocean each winter hoping for a glimpse of any whale, but especially a female right whale with a new calf.

Word of a sighting or a new calf ripples quickly through the community. Whale calving has dropped off dramatically off Florida's coast in recent years, bottoming out with no new calves in 2018. but seven calves were reported this winter, raising hopes that perhaps



the whale calving would begin returning to its former numbers.

But whale scientists cautioned not to get too excited. Turns out they were right. The jubilation about the seven calves quickly dissolved into despair as each new dead whale was discovered this summer.

A seventh whale has been reported entangled in fishing gear. Canadian and United States authorities have been flying aerial surveillance in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, to try to spot the whales and warn shipping traffic of their locations. This week that surveillance effort was "enhanced," Canadian authorities said, so they could search for the entangled whale.

At least three of the six dead whales were victims of apparent vessel strikes, said researchers with the Marineland Right Whale Project and the New England Aquarium. The results of a fourth necropsy were inconclusive.

Officials with Fisheries Oceans Canada, collaborating with a network of universities and agencies, have completed necropsies on four of the six whales.

The outcome of Clipper's necropsy was announced Tuesday: "death due to blunt trauma, consistent with vessel strike." She was buried in a landfill in Gaspe, Quebec.

A 10-knot speed restriction

implemented by the Canadian government where she was found is still in place.

Four of the dead whales were females. Two of them had been producing calves, and two were old enough to produce calves but had not yet given birth.

"We can't kill our females before they ever even replace themselves," said Julie Albert, right whale hotline coordinator for the Marine Resources Council, who helps train local volunteers to watch for the whales.

Like many right whales, Clipper's body carried scars from previous encounters with vessels. She was named for an injury where a portion of her right fluke had been severed or clipped in a vessel strike before she was first spotted off Florida in 2004, said Jim Hain,

Twelve years later, in 2016, she was seen with her first calf, said Hain. She was photographed about a mile off Ponce Inlet.

Albert clearly remembers the excitement around Clipper's visit in the winter of 2016. "That was huge," she said. "It was an incredible learning experience, not just for the public, but the marine mammal people as well."

People were driving "from very long distances" to see the whale and her calf, Albert said.

She was also seen off Ormond Beach and South Daytona, said Hain. "The frequent sightings in 2016 meant that many volunteers with both the Marineland Right Whale Project and the Marine Resources Council had a connection with this whale."

The deaths are all the more concerning for whale researchers when considered in the context of the births and deaths among the right whales since 2016.

"With only two calves born in 2016 (one of them Clipper's), 13 born in 2017, no calves born in 2018, and seven born in 2019? held against the 17 deaths in 2017, and the six deaths and an entanglement so far in 2019, we have to accept that we are faced with a tipping point," Hain said. That's "a net loss to the population."

Right whale scientists have grown increasingly concerned about the calving rate, which may be influenced by the amount of food available to the female whales.

But this summer's deaths particularly sting "for the scientists and volunteers working in Florida, who were cautiously optimistic as of March 2019 when seven calves were tallied for the season," Hain said.

"While the seven were fewer than might be desirable, this was seen as perhaps the beginning of a rebound or upward trend. Now, in July 2019, even the most optimistic of us will have to face the reality," he said. "Thoughtful, collaborative, and renewed efforts are required for the successful coexistence of humans and this endangered and symbolic whale species."

# Manatee deaths by watercraft rising at record pace in Florida

By KATIE KUSTURA

THE NEWS-JOURNAL, DAYTONA BEACH

FLA.

#### DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—

Wildlife experts have blamed toxic red tide algae and a cold snap for the deadly 2018 experienced by manatees, but so far this year, boats are the primary cause.

From the beginning of this year through June 21, 81 manatees have been killed by watercraft in Florida's waters, according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. During the same time frame in 2018, watercraft caused the deaths of 59 manatees.

At that rate, the number of manatee deaths caused by watercraft could hit an all-time high this year, officials say.

The reason for the increase is likely a combination of factors, said Cora Berchem, research and multimedia spe-



A manatee with propeller marks on its back surfaces in Blue Spring near Orange City. An increasing number of manatees in Florida have been killed in watercraft-related collisions in 2019.

cialist for the Save the Manatee Club, headquartered in Maitland.

Berchem said she believes one of the factors is manatees being downlisted from endangered to threatened, which may cause people to think it's safe to exhibit less caution while operating watercraft.

"That's not the case,"

Berchem said by phone Monday. "If we have more manatees, we also have more to protect."

A recovering economy also puts more people in the position to be able to go boating at their leisure, Berchem said.

This year a total of 300 manatees have been reported dead in Florida from Jan. 1

through June 21, according to the FWC.

In Volusia County, 16 manatee deaths have been reported, and at least eight of them were watercraft-related, per the FWC. In Flagler County, two manatee deaths were reported, but neither was caused by watercraft.

One of the victims is Dix,

a frequent visitor to Blue Spring State Park, who was found dead in the St. Johns River on June 8, said Michael Watkins, park manager.

"She's been coming here for a while," Watkins said of Dix, who was first recorded in the manatee count in 2011.

There's an increase in boating activity during the summer, and not all watercraft operators have experience navigating the area's waters, Watkins said.

The impact of a boat's hull and the slashing of propellers can injure or kill Florida's official marine mammal, according to Save the Manatee Club.

ing to Save the Manatee Club.

Manatees, which swim very slowly, reside in shallow waters, Diana Ngai, club spokeswoman, said in a news release. Manatees are more susceptible to suffering injuries from a watercraft due to their need to surface for air.

THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2019 **21** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Life & Style

# Nicki Minaj pulls out of Saudi Arabia concert

NEW YORK (AP)—Nicki Minaj is pulling out of a concert in Saudi Arabia because she says she wants to show support for women's rights, gay rights and freedom of ex-

"After careful reflection I have decided to no longer move forward with my scheduled concert at Jeddah World Fest. While I want nothing

more than to bring my show to fans in Saudi Arabia, after better educating myself on the issues. I believe it is important for me to make clear my support for the rights of women,

the LGBTQ community and freedom of expression," Minaj said in a statement Tuesday to The Associated Press.

Minaj was originally scheduled to headline the concert Minaj on July 18.

In Saudi Arabia, gender segregation between single men and women is still enforced in many

shops, public schools and universities, but other rules have loosened with women now allowed to drive and attend events in sports stadiums

Jeddah World Fest, which in line with Saudi laws is alcohol and drugfree, is open to people 16 and older and will take place at the King Abdullah Sports Stadium in the Red Sea city. Other performers include former One Direction member Liam Payne and DJ-producer Steve Aoki.

The Human Rights Foundation issued a statement last week, calling for Minaj and other performers to pull out of the show. On Tuesday, the New York-based organization praised Minaj's decision to not perform at the concert.

televi-

#### **SHOWBIZ TIDBITS**

#### Beyoncé drops new original song from 'The Lion King'

LOS ANGELES (AP)— Beyoncé has dropped a new original song from Disney's live-action "Lion King." The song, "Spirit," was released Tuesday and should get an Academy-Award push for Academy Award consideration. The tune comes at a pivotal moment for Nala, the character voiced by Beyoncé, in the film that comes out July 18. She also co-wrote the song. It's part of an album called "The Lion King: The Gift" that Beyoncé is executive producing and performing on along with other artists. It will be released digitally July 11, with the physical album coming July 19. The collection is a companion to the main "Lion King" soundtrack, which consists mostly of songs from the animated film, along with a new number from Elton John and Tim Rice, who wrote the songs for the original.

#### Lady Gaga heralds the coming of her makeup line on Amazon

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The last thing the world needs, Lady Gaga says, is another beauty brand. But that's too

bad. The pop star made all her Little Monsters happy Tuesday when she released a video with that message on social media. It heralds the coming of her new beauty line, Haus Laboratories, reportedly to be sold on Amazon come September. Gaga dropped the news in an interview with the Business of Fashion, coinciding with the video that encourages all to embrace their own ideas about beauty. Business of Fashion says the three initial products are multiuse color for cheeks, eyes and lips in six shade families. A kit with all three will sell for \$49. Preorders begin July 15. Gaga says in the video: "Beauty is how you see yourself." She adds, "We want you to love vourself."

#### Military historian John H. Morrow wins \$100,000 award

NEW YORK (AP)-Military historian and educator John H. Morrow Jr. has received a \$100,000 prize from a leading military museum. Morrow was given the Pritzker Military Museum & Library Literature Award for lifetime achievement, an honor previously bestowed to Rick Atkinson and James M.

McPherson among others. In a statement released Tuesday through the Chicago-based museum, Morrow called the award "the ultimate affirmation" of his career. Morrow, 75, has written or co-written several books on World War I, including "The Great War: An Imperial History," "The Great War in the Air" and "German Airpower in World War I." He also chairs the history department at the University of Georgia.

#### **EU fines Hello Kitty** owner \$7 million in antitrust ruling

BRUSSELS (AP)—European Union authorities on Tuesday fined the Japanese company behind Hello Kitty for restricting cross-border online sales of toys, mugs, bags and other products featuring the cartoon cat girl. The EU's antitrust commissioner, Margrethe Vestager, said that Sanrio Co. was fined 6.2 million euros (\$7 million) because the company violated the bloc's competition rules with licensing agreements that banned traders from selling merchandise in different countries in the bloc. The commission found Sanrio's illegal practices were in force for 11 years until December.

#### Emmy-winning actor Rip Torn has died at the age of 88 Rick Miramontez. No cause of death was

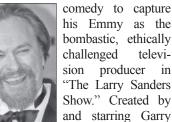
LOS ANGELES (AP)—Rip Torn, the free-spirited Texan who overcame his quirky name to become a distinguished actor in theater, television and movies and win an Emmy in his 60s for his comedy turn on TV's "The Larry Sanders Show," has died. He

Torn died Tuesday afternoon at his home with his wife, Amy Wright, and daughters Katie Torn and Angelica Page by his side, according to his publicist

given. His career on stage and screen spanned

seven decades, ranging from an early career of dark, threatening roles to iconic **Torn** comedic performances later in life.

After acclaimed performances in "Cross Creek," "Sweet Bird of Youth" and other dramas. Torn turned to



shows aired from 1992 to 1998 and is widely credited with inspiring such satirical programs as "30 Rock" and "Curb Your Enthusiasm."

Shandling, HBO's

spoof of TV talk

#### AT&T pulls 'Friends' from Netflix for its streaming service

NEW YORK (AP)—AT&T is pulling "Friends" from Netflix to beef up its own upcoming streaming service. With new services launching, popular shows are splintering onto several different platforms.

The wireless company, which owns the WarnerMedia entertainment business, also said Tuesday that its service will be called HBO Max. It will launch in spring of 2020. As the name suggests, it will contain HBO content, other video from the Warner Bros.

studio—like "Friends"—and new series and movies that are exclusive to the service. AT&T has not announced a price.

As more companies—Comcast, Apple, Disney-unveil their own streaming services, they're trying to make them more appealing with exclusive shows and deep libraries. Entertainment companies are pulling some of their stuff from Netflix to stock their own services. It's not clear, of course, how successful those services will be, and they are losing out on licensing revenue by pulling their content. It could also create a confusing and expensive situation for consumers, who have to decide which of all these existing and new video services is worth the cost.

AT&T's decision follows Comcast's NBCUniversal saying last month it would keep "The Office," Netflix's most popular show, for itself starting in 2021. Its service debuts in 2020. Disney's upcoming service will be the exclusive streaming home for its big movies.

# Friendship ends after birthday party joke goes wildly wrong

EAR ABBY: I recently attended a friend's party that was being given to celebrate their son's 18th birthday. I thought it would be cheeky and fun to buy him a risque card from an adult boutique, thinking everyone would get a good laugh, and we'd have something to roast the young man with. When he opened the card, he had this look of horror on his face, ran out of the room all teary-eyed and went directly to his bedroom. His mother picked up the card and immediately asked me to leave. I was really embarrassed but unsure about the reason.

I gave them a week or so to cool off. I called back only to be nformed by the mother that I had violated her son's sanctity of sexual orientation because he identifies as a "they" and "prefers androgynous boys to women." She went on to explain that as a result of my "indiscriminate sexism," I'm no longer allowed around the family.

I feel I should've been informed of the child's orientation being such an important aspect of his ... or rather, "their" identity, and tried to explain it was an honest mistake and would never happen again. My friend said the damage was done, and they can't forgive that kind of arrogance and blatant disrespect for "their" gender identity and sexual orientation.

Was I insensitive for not asking first, or should the parents have taken the initiative to inform me so I wouldn't make such an egregious error in what I assumed was a well-rounded friendship? Any advice would be great.

WANTING TO SCREAM IN EUGENE

**DEAR WANTING: I think one lesson to be learned here** is that some people are not comfortable with sexual humor. Another is that it is a mistake to assume that everyone is straight or cisgender.

I'm sorry that the young person was embarrassed. Your apology should have been directed at them, not their mother. But since the mother has now decreed you persona non grata, you will have to accept it. It's unfortunate. The family overreacted. What could have been handled as a simple teachable moment was blown out of proportion.

**DEAR ABBY:** I am about to blow my top! I am a married father of two in the military who works 12 hours daily to support my family. My wife and I are college grads and have been married five years. For those years we have maintained residence in Hawaii. My wife doesn't work and tries to run a day care that is mildly successful.

Our home is always dirty because, as she puts it, she is not a housemaid. She doesn't cook often either. Many times I come home so tired I can't see, and the house is a mess. This has caused arguments.

My thinking is, if she's not going to take care of the house, she should get a job and help with the finances. The money she gets from the day care doesn't go toward the household. She considers it her spending money.

I am ready to bounce and find greener pastures. I have tried

#### **DEAR ABBY**

**By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN** UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles,



talking to her, but she ignores my complaints and plays the victim. We have already tried counseling. It doesn't work because she goes back to her normal self afterward. Help!

PEEVED IN THE PACIFIC

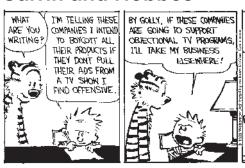
DEAR PEEVED: Marriage is supposed to be a partnership and, from what you have written, your wife is unwilling to contribute to it. I can't change her and neither can you. Because counseling hasn't resolved your obvious lack of compatibility, it's time to consult a lawyer.

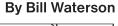
What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

**22** THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2019 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# **Pastimes**

#### Calvin and Hobbes







#### **Garfield**<sub>®</sub>

By Jim Davis



#### Adam@home

13 Stratagem 43 Throngs

22 Burial

24 Ancient

invader

STUMPED?

27 Stickum

chamber



#### The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



26 Cheated

MANBE I CAN SCARE AWAY

THE ADVERTISING DOLLARS

MAD GET THE SHOW CONCELED







CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Put

your heart and soul into what you do. Pay

close attention to detail, and your exper-

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Assess

a partnership or project you are involved

in before you decide to participate. A

tise will be appreciated. A unique opportunity will

be tempting, but first get all the facts and figures

before you agree to participate.

CROSSWORD		By Eugene Sheffe		
ACROSS	38 Potato,	56 Halt	<b>20</b> PC	
1 "Frozen"	for one		program	

snow	40 Undergrad	DOWN	<b>22</b> Lid
queen	deg.	1 911 re-	23 Map line
5 Toe woe	<b>41</b> Tony-	sponders	24 Transcrip
9 Spigot	winning	2 Pride	no.
12 Baseball	actress	member	25 Not
glove	Rivera	3 Eyelid	ineath

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14 Pub pint 47 Ewe's 4 Tack on on 5 Battleship 27 Chromo-15 Lionel mate products 48 Luau color some part 17 Long. lighting 6 French

crosser 51 Guitar's 29 Humorist "yes" 18 Furtive kin 7 SEAL's 30 Resort 19 Shire of 52 Lena 35 Fanatic org. "Rocky of 8 Irritable 37 Industry 21 Biz abbr. "Chocolat" 9 Whopper tycoons

> **53** NBA's **10** Jai -39 Ulan — Archibald 11 Anti-fur 40 Automa-54 Marked a org. ton, for ballot **16** "Top Hat" short 41 Heart **55** Tear studio

28 Fido's feet of the 31 Church matter Solution time: 24 mins. seat **42** Cod 32 Zsa Zsa's cousin

43 Posterior sister 44 "Phocey! 33 Sass 34 "East of 45 Outside Eden" (Pref.) 46 Smith of twin 36 Actor Fox News

Beatty — -de-37 Test France version Yesterday's answer 7-11 50 Family

#### 22 23 29 30 26 31 32 36 42 45 52 53 55 56

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99c per minute, touch tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Justin** Chambers, 49; Lisa Rinna, 56; Richie Sambora, 60; Sela Ward, 63.

Happy Birthday: Your ideas will be superior and your ability to organize and pull things together remarkable this year. Trust and believe in what you do, and so will the people you encounter along the way. Don't waste time on people who are inconsistent or have held you back in the past. Move forward, and make the most with what you've got. Your numbers are 9, 12, 21, 26, 33, 37, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Do more listening and less talking when dealing with partners. Finding out where you stand will give insight into how best to handle situations that may not be to your liking. Giveand-take is required.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Share your feelings, but don't force ideas on others. The way you approach people will make a difference to the outcome. If you are calm and consistent, you'll receive a far better response. Collaborate with people who have something to offer.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Put restrictions on how much you spend and the promises you make others. You should be aiming toward stress reduction, not ramping it up. Don't let situations turn into a melodrama that leaves you facing an ultimatum.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): What you do will make a difference to a meaningful relationship. Don't let an outsider coax you into something that will cause those close to you to worry. Emotional upset and anger will

only make matters worse. Romance is encouraged. OOOOO

some unique ideas, but they won't all you make promises. You can hurt your reputation if you can't live up to your word. Someone will hold you accountable if you fall short. OO

best to get along with everyone. A personal change you make will turn out well, but it might not please someone close to you. You should seek approval before you commit to something that will affect others. Romance will ease the pressure.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You know better than anyone what's best for you. Don't back down or give in to someone asking you to do something restrictive or underhanded. A joint venture isn't recommended. An

tions will need to be channeled. Physical improvements, lifestyle changes or romance should be your priority. If someone is demanding or forceful, know enough to walk away. A problem based on false information isn't worth

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep your dialogue honest and precise. Someone will misinterpret what you are

change someone makes should not be allowed to cost you. Stand up for your rights.

object is to place the numbers

EUGENIA LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll have

be feasible. Crunch the numbers before

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Do your

argument over money is likely. •••

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your emoarguing about. 🗪

trying to say if you aren't explicit. A last-minute

change someone makes unexpectedly should be a warning sign to slow down and rethink your next move. Use your intelligence and experience to avoid a costly mistake. 🏖 PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't wait

THE LAST WORD

IN ASTROLOGY

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for someone else to make the first move. You'll do better if you work alone. If you give someone the upper hand, expect him or her to take advantage of you. Celebrate your success 

Birthday Baby: You are loving and giving. You are emotional and original.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the 6 same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis 5 Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday. 2 Я 8 2 5 Yesterday's Answer 8 3 4 2 9 7 5 6 1 3 6 7 5 2 6 1 3 4 8 9 6 1 9 5 4 8 3 7 2 8 1 9 1 2 3 8 7 5 9 4 6 5 8 7 4 6 9 2 1 3 3 5 4 9 4 6 3 2 1 8 5 7 2 6 1 9 8 4 7 3 5 3 3 9 8 7 5 6 1 2 4 4 7 5 1 3 2 6 9 8

7711

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD Sudoku is a number-placing OUELLET puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The

HOW TO PLAY; All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDELEWORD.

NOTRE DAME DE PARIS FIRE Solution: 11 letter N R E D E \$ I G N N L E A D V OOTCREPPOCASTRA IFIRGIHCRUHCU TECTRLTOEGDIRBL AWARAAOSLLEBNET I INTNHEDHI®P EOYAICTVT®YI NDDHDPPLEA@RAPR E O E C A E M O I (M) C N E E G LRLFSOLBOTTSA IBROLRSEASOAN 1 \$ P S R K U P I E T A O H W V S SASTONEACOINEET MEDIEVALRHICRRO

5.2019 Andrews McMod Syndicution — www.wonderword.ca

Aisles, Arts, Bridge, Buttress, Cathedral, Catholic, Choir, Church, Copper, Crypt, Desk, Donation, Fleche, France, Gold, Ile de la Cite, Lead, Marble, Mary, Medieval, Mosaics, Napoleon, Nave, Organs, Our Lady, Paris, Piano, Pieta, Pipes, Redesign, Rehabilitation, Renovation, Rib, Rooster, Rose Windows, Save, Spire, Stone, Ten Bells, Towers, Vault Yesterday's Answer: Universe

DNBUTTRESSELSIA

The NEW Volume 56 can be purchased on ine at www.WenderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2019 **23** 

#### Wireless Ridge Landscaping

is seeking for U.S. qualified workers for the following positions:

#### 3) LANDSCAPING AND GROUNDSKEEPING WORKERS

Perform residential and commercial landscaping work including design conceptualization and layout, preparation of plant materials, soil preparation, planting and maintenance. Also performs grounds keeping duties and other related duties as assigned. Minimum qualifications: 3-12 months of related work experience, with a high school or GED diploma.

All positions close 5:00pm on Tuesday, July 30, 2019.

Applications are available at the <u>Marianas Medical Center</u>. Applications should include a resume. It should also include a valid Police Clearance no more than 6 months old. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Wireless Ridge Landscaping is an equal opportunity employer.

#### Saipan International Real Estate Corp.

P.O. Box 10003 PMB 388 Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan Tel. No: (670)233-5888

**Job Title:** Accountant

Job Duty: 1. Compute federal/local taxes owed and prepare tax returns, reporting or other tax requirements. 2. Prepare monthly BGRT and Financial statements, bank reconciliations (monthly/yearly). 3. Computes payroll of employees 4. Prepares permit and license application as required by Federal and CNMI government.

**Required Education and Experience:** Bachelor's degree from an accredited college in accounting, finance or related field. Must have 3 years of working experiences as an Accountant with Employment Certificate. Knowledge in utilizing various office equipment and software. Must have a current CNMI Driver's License and Police Clearance require

**Full or Part time** \$15/hr

#### Wireless Ridge Landscaping

is seeking for U.S. qualified workers for the following positions:

#### (1) NURSERY WORKER

Perform residential and commercial landscaping work including design conceptualization and layout, preparation of plant materials, soil preparation, planting and maintenance. Take care of nursery plants, including propagation and maintenance, proper storage and use fertilizer, and proper storage and application of insecticides. Experience with propagation and care of orchids highly desirable, as well as experience with tropical plants and general nursery related duties. Minimum qualifications: 3 months of related work experience, with a high school or GED diploma.

#### All positions close 5:00pm on Monday, July 29, 2019.

Applications are available at the Marianas Medical Center. Applications should include a resume. It should also include a valid Police Clearance no more than 6 months old. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Wireless Ridge Landscaping is an equal opportunity employer.

> ROBERT TENORIO TORRES, ATTORNEY AT LAW P.O. Box 503758 Saipan MP 96950 Phone No.: (670)234-7859 Fax No.: (670)234-5749

#### **JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

#### Accountant

Opening Date: July 4, 2019

Closing Date: July 12, 2019

Job Duties: Recording and classifying the accounting transactions. Make entries into Time Matters Accounting and Bookkeeping system of Law Office as to receipts and expenditures. Handle client trust fund accounting, receives payments and post. Handle operations fund accounting, receives legal services collections. Deposit collections to Law Office Client Trust Account and Operations Fund depository banks. Analyze financial information, prepare accounting entries, such as general ledger accounts, documenting business transactions. Reconcile Client Trust and Operations Account per bank and ledger records. Prepare payroll. Prepare payments to vendors and other payables. Post payments and billings to clients. Prepare tax-related information, 941-SS, FICA Report, withholding tax, Annual Recon of Taxes Withheld, Business Gross Tax Return, Annual Tax Return and other revenue reports. Applies principles of accounting Analyze financial information, detailing assets, liabilities and capital, create financial reports using Time Matters Accounting, Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Statement, and Statement of Retained Earnings. Prepares other reports to summarize current financial position. Prepares Cash Position Report and Summary of Receivables. Assist with law office operations including client inquiries, case management, file management, and other related duties as assigned.

**Qualification Requirements:** Applicants must be proficient with Time Matters, Billing Matters and Accounting System of Law Office. Must be an Accounting graduate (B.S. Accounting) with 36 months experience in bookkeeping and accounting field. Computer literate including Word Perfect and Microsoft Programs, Excel, Word and PowerPoint. Must know the Revenue and Taxes preparation and filing. Strong skills and organization. Able to work in the Law Office environment and; Strong interpersonal skills.

Full Time - 40 hours; bi-weekly Salary Range: \$ 12.08 per hour

Send Employment Application at Robert T. Torres Law Office from Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Plata Drive, Whispering Palms or to mailing address at P.O. Box 503758, by Fax at (670) 234-5749 or email to Robert T. Torres at rttlaw@pticom.com.

#### RAINBOW CORPORATION

Has an opening for

#### **COOK**

#### Job duties:

- · Plans and select Restaurant Menu.
- Shop and Order all Material and Supply needed for the
- Manage costing of Menu Items.
- Cooks and prepares customers order based on the menu.
- Analyze recipes to assign prices to menu items, based on food, labor and overhead costs.
- Arrange for equipment purchases or repairs.
- Check the quality of raw or cooked food products to ensure that standards are met.
- Check the quantity and quality of received products.
- · Collaborate with management to plan and develop recipes or menus, taking into account such factors as seasonal availability of ingredients or the likely number of customers.

#### **Requirements:**

- Vast knowledge in Japanese cuisine
- Knowledge in different Japanese spices and ingredients.
- Must be able to read, write and speak Japanese.
- 24 months work related experience.
- · Police Clearance required

**Salary:** \$14.40-15.50 per hour

Interested applicants Send resume to limsoffice@yahoo.com or call 1-670-234-1667 (Monday to Friday, 8am-5pm except

This is a temporary full time position.

#### RAINBOW CORPORATION

Has an opening for

#### **OPERATIONS MANAGER**

#### Job duties;

- Observe Staff performance to on to assure conformance with company standards.
- Develop or implement product-marketing strategies, including advertising campaigns or sales promotions.
- Direct administrative activities directly related to making products or
- providing services. Direct and coordinate activities of business.

  Direct non-merchandising departments of business, such as
- advertising or purchasing.

  Direct or coordinate financial or budget activities to fund operations
- or increase efficiency.
  Coordinates with other Tour Agencies who handles incoming Korean
- Tourist customers.
- Assist in arranging & coordinating activities of Tour companies engaged in conducting marine & land tour activities for Korean tourists, observe agent performance on tours to assure conformance with standards
- Prepares reports on tour activities, correspond with tour operators in organize & execute attractive & competitive tour package in Korean to be sold in Korea
- Act as liaison between tour agents and company and resolves any problems if any arises
- Must know system knowledge in computer and perform other duties

- High School Graduate with 4 years related experience or College
- 4 Years experience in a tour or travel industry.
- Must have computer skill for input of daily sales, handling reservations and corresponding with other agents.

  Must be able to read, write and speak Korean.
- Police clearance required will be equally applied both to US workers
- Proof of Previous employment is required.

Interested applicants Send resume to limsoffice@yahoo.com or call 1-670-234-1667 (Monday to Friday, 8am-5pm except holidays)

This is a temporary full time position.

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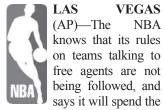


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# Silver: NBA 'can do a better job' on free agency, rules



next few months figuring out a better system.

Commissioner Adam Silver, speaking after the league's board of governors meeting Tuesday, says the league is aware "that there have been prior discussions" between teams and free agents.

Silver says "it's pointless at the end of the day to have rules that we can't enforce. I think it hurts the perception of integrity around the league."

So the next step will be finding ways to improve the process, either by changing some rules or perhaps eliminating some that are outdated.

Teams could begin talking to free agents, per letter of the law, after 6 p.m. Eastern on June 30. Some deals were known to have been agreed upon shortly after that window opened, and a few were known even before that time arrived.

#### Coach's challenge OKd

NBA team owners unanimously approved two changes to instant replay rules on Tuesday that will allow a coach's challenge and other video reviews triggered by the NBA Replay Center.

The measures, recommended by the NBA competition committee, are being used in NBA Summer League games and will be adopted on a oneseason trial basis for the 2019-20 campaign.

In all cases, "clear and conclusive visual evidence" will be required to declare a call incorrect and overturn a referee's decision.

The coach's challenge is available in a limited set of situations, provided a team has at least one timeout remaining. The replay center reviews were first tested at last year's

summer league.

"These initiatives further strengthen our officiating program and help referees make the right call," NBA President of League Operations Byron Spruell said.

"Giving head coaches a voice will enhance the confidence in our replay process among teams and fans and add a new, exciting strategic element to our game.

"Enabling the NBA Replay Center to trigger instant replay will improve game flow and provide real-time awareness of any adjustments to the score."

Each team is allowed one challenge a game, successful or not, on a personal foul charged to a player on that team, an out of bounds call or whistles for goaltending or basket interference.

A personal foul challenge can come at any point in a game but in the final two minutes of the fourth quarter or overtimes, only the on-court referees can instigate challenges for basket interference, goaltending or out of bounds calls.

To challenge, a team must call a timeout and the coach must signal the challennge by twirling a finger toward the referees.

The penalty for attempting to challenge without a timeout is a technical foul and no challenge to the call will be given.

Calling a timeout to challenge an event that cannot be reviewed will cost the team the timeout but it will keep the right to make a challenge.

The NBA Replay Center can instigate replays in the first 46 minutes of regulation time and the first three minutes of overtime periods for certain issues.

It can determine if a shot was a 3-point attempt or a 2-pointer or if a fouled shooter should have two or three free throws.

The center can also review whether or not a shot clock violation has taken place.

A new "courtside administrator" hired and supervised by the league will be added at the scorer's table to expidite communication between the referees and NBA Replay Center.

The administrator will not have any decision-making authority regarding calls or replay determinations.

#### **Warriors waive** Livingston

Another key piece to the Golden State Warriors' recent dynastic run won't be with the team as it embarks on the

2019-20 campaign.

ronto, Friday, March 22, 2019.

Veteran guard Shaun Livingston is being waived by the Warriors in a move that will help them with the luxury tax. The person requested anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly until the move is official. ESPN first reported the news.

Toronto Raptors forward Kawhi Leonard (2) moves past Oklahoma City

Thunder forward Paul George (13) during a basketball game action in To-

Joining the team in 2014, Livingston had helped the Warriors to the Finals each of the past five seasons, with the team winning the championship in 2015, 2017 and 2018.

The 33-year-old who joined the NBA out of high school in 2004 averaged a modest 5.4 points, 2 rebounds and 2.4 assists in five seasons with the Warriors, but he was a key bench contributor (17.5 minutes per game) for one of the best five-year runs we've seen by

any team. However, Livingston's numbers dipped across the board in 2018-19 (4-1.8-1.8) and he appeared in fewer games than he had in any non-lockout season since 2009-10.

Livingston's exit was preceded by Kevin Durant leaving for the Brooklyn Nets in free agency and the trade of Andre Iguodala, another veteran who was on all three title teams. Additionally, All-Star Klay Thompson is expected to miss a good portion of next season after tearing his ACL in the NBA Finals.

Next season will be undeniably different for the Warriors, who did manage to add some talent this offseason in the form of All-Star guard D'Angelo Russell. Tuesday's news was more confirmation of that.



#### SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP)-Jimmy Garoppolo is going to summer

school before start-

ing training camp with the San Francisco 49ers.

Garoppolo is spe of his down time between the end of minicamp and the start of training camp on July 27 working in Southern California with quarterback guru Tom House.

House is a former major league pitcher and pitching coach perhaps most famous for catching Hank Aaron's record-breaking 715th career homer in the Atlanta Braves bullpen in 1974. But in recent years, House has run a quarterback academy in Huntington Beach called 3DQB

## Garoppolo goes to QB summer school before training camp

where he helps passers refine their throwing mechanics.

House has worked with several star quarterbacks over the Drew Brees Matt Ryan and Carson Palmer. Garoppolo met House during his time in New England as Brady's teammate on the Patriots and has been spending time working on his mechanics all offseason as he comes back from season-ending knee surgery.

"We're trying to implement drills as close to game-like situations as you could get to," Garoppolo said in a phone interview last week.

"At the same time, we're sticking to mechanics and the

basics. That's what quarterbacking comes down to. You have to be really good with the basics and do them over years, including Tom Brady, and over again. It's good to the 2017 season. He stepped in get someone with as much after a few weeks and won all experience as Tom.

"It's nice to have him see you throw and see if he has any little things to fix up or anything you haven't thought about that he thinks can help you. Quarterback is a very unique position and a lot goes into it. There are a lot of moving pieces."

The extra work this offseason is important for Garoppolo, who played just three games all last season before tearing his ACL and has just 10 career starts in five NFL seasons.

Garoppolo showed plenty of promise after arriving in San Francisco in a trade with the Patriots midway through five starts, earning a five-year, \$137.5 million contract to stay off the free-agent market.

Garoppolo completed less than 60 percent of his passes in his three starts last season and saw his yards per attempt drop, while his sack and interception rates went up.

Now the Niners hope he can regain his form from 2017 with help from an overhauled group of receivers, including secondround receiver Deebo Samuel, third-rounder Jalen Hurd and

veteran Jordan Matthews.

San Francisco also signed running back Tevin Coleman and will have a healthy Jerick McKinnon after last year's big free-agent acquisition missed all of 2018 with a major knee injury.

Some of those players are spending time with Garoppolo this summer and he plans to get a big group together in Santa Clara before the start of training camp in order to build up a rapport as quickly as possible.

"I'm trying to pick up their mannerisms, what motivates them, all those things," Garoppolo said. "There's a million different things that go into it. It's exciting. This time of year, with

only a couple of weeks until training camp, it's grind time.

"Chemistry comes with experience and practice reps. A guy can be last on the totem pole but if he starts making plays day after day he can move up quickly. That's kind of the nature of the beast when it comes to football. But that's the exciting part of it."

When he's not working on football this offseason, Garoppolo has also been spending time on community service. He's teamed up with Men's Wearhouse as part of a Suit Drive this month, where the clothing store distributes gently used professional attire to people looking to re-enter the workplace through job readiness programs.

# AL strikes out 16, holds off NL in All-Star Game

one night, the pitchers took back the power.

Hours after an awesome Home Run Derby got everyone buzzing even louder about monster shots and juiced balls, only a couple flew out of Progressive Field in the All-Star Game.

Instead, Justin Verlander blazed 97 mph heat from the start, Shane Bieber and Aroldis Chapman each struck out the side and the American League slowed a loaded NL lineup 4-3 Tuesday for its seventh straight win.

"I know it's the year of the home run, but pitching dominated today," Colorado slugger Nolan Arenado said.

Sure did—at least until play resumes Thursday.

Facing Christian Yelich, Cody Bellinger and a bunch of boppers, the AL staff combined to strike out 16.

"Baseball is a funny game," said Bieber, a most unlikely MVP after being added late to

With fans hoping to see a replay of Monday's jaw-dropping aerial show when 312 homers cleared the walls, this became the Arm-Star Game up until the late innings.

Derby champ Pete Alonso of the Mets grounded a two-out, two-run single past Gleyber Torres in the eighth to close the NL's gap. After a double steal put runners at second and third against Cleveland reliever Brad Hand, White Sox catcher James Mc-Cann made a tumbling catch on Mike Moustakas' twisting foul pop to end the inning.

Chapman closed to give the AL its 19th win in 22 games, with a tie stuck in there. He got a little encouragement with two outs—Yankees teammate CC Sabathia, honored this week for his contributions on and off the field, strolled to the mound to talk to the flamethrower.

Chapman then struck out Yasmani Grandal for a save, giving the AL an overall 45-43-2 lead in the Midsummer Classic.

No need, either, for the experimental rule that was set to go effect: If the game went into extras, each team would've started the 10th with an automatic runner on second base.

Major League Baseball is on a record-shattering pace for homers this season, but no one came close to clearing the walls until Charlie Blackmon connected in the NL sixth to make it 2-1. Texas' Joey Gallo countered with a solo drive in a two-run seventh.

Still, it was a far cry from last year's All-Star Game that featured a record 10 home runs.

"I kind of expected it, to be honest." former NL MVP Kris Bryant said. "You only see them once, so they have the



advantage."

"There are a lot of hard throwers and great pitchers over there. Unless you've seen them before, it's a difficult matchup," he said.

Cleveland favorite Michael Brantley had an early RBI double off losing pitcher Clayton Kershaw. Jorge Polanco drove in a run with an infield single for a 2-0 edge in the fifth and another scored on a double-play grounder.

"I wanted to swing the bat early. I had some nervous jitters I wanted to get out," Brantley said.

Winning pitcher Masahiro Tanaka, Lucas Giolito and Shane Greene did their parts to protect the lead with scoreless innings.

Bieber dazzled in front of a chanting home crowd, striking out Willson Contreras, Ketel Marte and Ronald Acuña Jr. in the fifth with a 1-0 lead. Bieber later donated his cap to the Hall of Fame.

in it and it was fun," AL manager Alex Cora of the Red Sox

was electric out

there, the fans got

said. "And I'm glad that he got the MVP. He plays at this level. He's really good."

The biggest misplay of the night might have been on the scoreboard. NL All-Stars David Dahl of Colorado and Willson Contreras of the Cubs had their names misspelled-"Davis Dahl" and "Wilson Contreras"—on the outfield videoboard. Jeff McNeil was spelled correctly, but the photo accompanying it was of Mets teammate Jacob deGrom.

"That was tough, to see de-Grom's picture up there," Mc-Neil said. "I didn't really like that. I wanted to see my picAmerican League Shane Bieber of the Cleveland Indians throws during the fifth inning of the MLB baseball All-Star Game against the National League, Tuesday, July 9, 2019, in Cleveland.

ture up there. I know my family did, too. What are you going to do, I guess, but I don't think that should happen."

Fittingly, the first batter of the game was the guy who leads the majors in home runs —Yelich, the NL MVP with 31 homers at the break, hit leadoff for the first time this year.

Yelich lined out and Verlander quickly fanned Javier Báez and Freddie Freeman to finish his work.

Those lively balls that Verlander is complaining about? Didn't bother him a bit.

NL starter Hyun-Jin Ryu, de-Grom and Luis Castillo threw scoreless innings to keep the NL close in the early going.

Pittsburgh dynamo Josh Bell was part of the youngest starting lineup in All-Star history, with the NL crew averaging under 26 years old.

Overall, there were 36 firsttimers, a number boosted by the absence of Bryce Harper, Manny Machado, José Altuve and several past perennials. And consider this: Of the 16 AL pitchers on the 2017 All-Star roster, zero made the roster this year.

All players wore a uniform patch with No. 45 to honor late Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs. Los Angeles teammates Mike Trout and Tommy La Stella switched their jerseys to Skaggs' number, and there was a pregame moment of silence.

"I felt him out there with me," Trout said. "To be able to represent him and what he meant to us on a stage like this is special."

CLEVELAND—Just a few days ago, Shane Bieber was looking forward to some time off over the All-Star break.

Instead, a whirlwind week hit its apex Tuesday with the Cleveland Indians' right-hander being named Most Valuable Player of the 2019 All-Star Game at his home ballpark.

The 24-year-old only became an All-Star on Friday night being named as a replacement for Texas Rangers lefty Mike Minor.

"To be able to do it in front of the home crowd and my first All-Star Game is definitely not something I expected, especially being added to the game four or five days ago," Bieber said.

Bieber pitched a perfect fifth inning on Tuesday night, striking out Willson Contreras, Ketel Marte and Ronald Acuña Jr. in order and was credited with the hold in the American League's 4-3 win at Progressive Field.

The fans in Cleveland went nuts, chanting his name as he got set to pitch to the third batter of the inning.

"I kind of stepped off the back of the mound after one of the pitches and wasn't totally able to look up and see everything, just because there was so much going on, but I heard everything and really soaked it all in," Bieber said.

Bieber is just the third player to win the MVP award in his home ballpark, joining Cleveland's Sandy Alomar Jr. here in 1997 and Boston's Pedro Martinez at Fenway Park in 1999.

"I didn't really know what to think," Bieber said of learning that he had been named the game's MVP. "I kind of lost all feeling in my body."

Bieber: From replacement to MVP

American League manager Alex Cora certainly took note of the young righty, who came highly recommended by Indians skipper Terry Francona.

"Talking to Tito, he's a great person," Cora said of it was fun. I'm glad that he got the MVP. He plays at this level. He's really good."

Drafted by the Indians in the fourth round of the 2016 draft out of UC-Santa Barbara, Bieber was in the majors less than two years later.

After having a tough time finding consistency as a rookie, Bieber is thriving in his second big-league season.

He's 8-3 with a 3.45 ERA, including 141 strikeouts in 112 1/3 innings and his ascent

has been all the more crucial considering the injuries to Cleveland's rotation.

Two-time Cy Young winner Corey Kluber hasn't pitched since May 1, Mike Clevinger just came back after more than two months on Bieber. "It was electric out the shelf and Carlos Carrasthere. The fans got into it and co has been out since the beginning of June, recently revealing he was diagnosed with leukemia.

The surging Indians are 21-8 since June 2 and have cut six games off the Minnesota Twins' lead in the AL Central over that span, heading into the break 5 ½ games back.

"They always have our back, no matter what, even when we were a little bit further down in the standings earlier in the year," said of the fan support. "Now that we're making a push at it, you can definitely feel the momentum especially from the city."

Said Cora: "There's a reason the Indians are playing the way they're playing and he's one of them.'

Bieber didn't have much time to prepare for his All-Star debut, but his Indians teammates helped him navigate the craziness of the week.

"Brad (Hand) and Carlos (Santana) kind of took me under their wing this weekend," Bieber said. "Brad and Frankie (Lindor) having been there a couple of times themselves, they told me to just enjoy it, it's going to be a lot - and it sure was – but to just take it all in as much as I could."

Just a year ago, those very same teammates got the DJ at Progressive Field to play Justin Bieber's 2009 classic, "Baby," as he warmed up on the mound before a start.

# With 19 aces, gutsy comeback, Serena reaches semis

WIMBLEDON, England (AP)—Slowed by a balky ankle, trailing by a service break in the third set of her Wimbledon quarterfinal, Serena Williams appeared to be in trouble Tuesday against an opponent playing the tournament of her life.

Williams was down, yes. But out? No way. And now she is two victories from that 24th Grand Slam title that's been barely eluding her.

Lifting her play a muchneeded notch down the stretch to grab the last three games, capping the comeback with her 19th ace—at 121 mph, no less—Williams reached the semifinals at the All England Club by gutting out a 6-4, 4-6, 6-3 win over 55th-ranked Alison Riske.

"I had to just button up and play hard," said Williams, who owns seven Wimbledon titles. "She was playing her heart out."

That she was. Riske, a 29-year-old from Pittsburgh, was appearing in her first major quarterfinal. For Williams, this was No. 51.

That might have made all the difference. It's Williams who possesses boundless muscle memory in these situations, who knows what it takes to come through in the tightest contests on the biggest stages.

"I definitely thought maybe I had a peek here and there at a couple openings, but Serena really upped her level, as only a champion would," Riske said.

"It was really, actually, very interesting for me to be on the opposite end, because I felt her up her game and her intensity," Riske said with a smile. "Yeah, I hope she takes the title now."

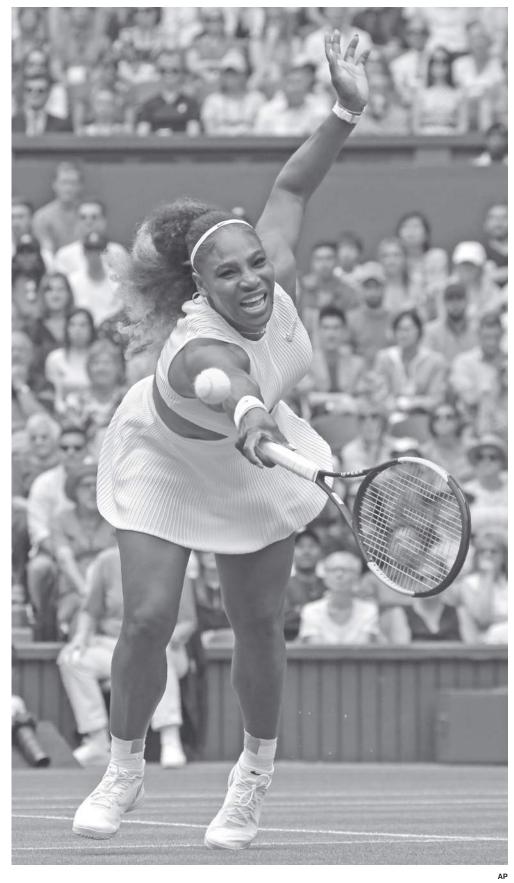
Next for the 37-year-old Williams will be a match against 54th-ranked Barbora Strycova of the Czech Republic, who reached her first Grand Slam semifinal at age 33 with a 7-6 (5), 6-1 victory over No. 19 Johanna Konta of Britain.

"A huge achievement for me," said Strycova, who is playing in her 53rd major tournament.

The other semifinal Thursday will be No. 7 Simona Halep of Romania against No. 8 Elina Svitolina of Ukraine.

After edging Riske in singles, Williams cooled down by riding a stationary bike while holding her nearly 2-year-old daughter, Olympia, in one arm. Then Williams went out and joined Andy Murray to win their second-round match in mixed doubles 7-5, 6-3 against Fabrice Martin and Raquel Atawo.

Halep, a former No. 1 who won the 2018 French Open, followed up her elimination of 15-year-old sensation Coco Gauff by defeating Zhang Shuai of China 7-6 (4), 6-1



United States' Serena Williams returns the ball to United States' Alison Riske during a women's quarterfinal match on Day 8 of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, Tuesday, July 9, 2019.

to get to her second semifinal at Wimbledon. Svitolina will make her debut in that round at any major tournament

thanks to beating Karolina Muchova of the Czech Republic 7-5, 6-4.

These sorts of stakes, and this sort of setting, are unfamiliar for Riske, who mistakenly headed to her changeover chair thinking the match's fifth game was over when the score was just 40-15.

Spectators chortled; she grinned and walked back to the baseline.

Even if Williams was hardly perfect, she got by, aided by her greatest-in-the-game serve and Riske's miscues. Most glaringly, Riske double-faulted five times in the final set, at least somewhat a result of trying to do too much against William's superb returns.

"It's no secret that Serena

has an amazing serve.
But Serena has an
equally-as-amazing
return," Riske said.
"I've never played
anyone that has a return like Serena. That

put a lot of pressure on my serve."

Still, Riske played tremendously well for most of the afternoon, just as she did while going 14-1 on grass in 2019 until Tuesday.

She won two of Williams' first four service games and finished 5 for 5 on break points. Her deep and flat groundstrokes off both sides jarred Williams repeatedly. Until, that is, Riske wilted

late—which was understandable, given that she became the first woman in Wimbledon history to play three-setters in five consecutive matches to open the tournament, according to the WTA.

Williams rolled her right ankle and her movement was hardly ideal. Late in the second set, she was visited by a trainer, who applied extra tape to the ankle. That was during a stretch when Riske, talking to herself between points, claimed four games in a row to take the second set and lead the third by a break at 1-0.

"I thought," Riske said, "I was very close."

Not close enough. Williams was not going to go quietly. She held at love to lead 4-3, and then came the key game. Riske saved a trio of break

points and was a point from 4-all after claiming a point when Williams slipped along the well-worn baseline.

First Williams got back to deuce by using a drop shot to set up a volley winner. Then she earned yet another break point on a thrilling 10-stroke exchange, using a drop shot to bring Riske forward and delivering a volley winner. Williams lifted both arms and jutted her jaw. In the stands, her husband leaped from his seat, pointed his index fingers at her and screamed.

On the next point, Riske double-faulted, handing over the last break Williams needed.

After breaking Steffi Graf's record for most Grand Slam trophies in the professional era by winning her 23rd at the 2017 Australian Open while pregnant, Williams took time off. Since returning to the tour

last season, she came close to equaling Margaret Court's Slam count of 24—which was accumulated in part against amateurs—but lost in the finals at Wimbledon and the U.S. Open.

Williams dealt with injuries and illness this year, playing just 12 matches until last week.

"This is the first time since (January) that I actually felt, like, good," she said at her news conference, while Olympia was held by Williams' agent at the back of the room. "It's been a really, really long year for me already, and hard year."

That's true. Also true: She's Serena Williams.

And so here she is, back in Wimbledon's semifinals for the 12th time.

"She's something," Riske said, "our sport has never seen before."

# Big 3 not slowing down

WIMBLEDON, England (AP)—The Big Three sure do not appear to be slowing down. If anything, they are as dominant as ever.

Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic head into Wednesday's quarterfinals at Wimbledon owning 14 of the last 16 championships at the All England Club. They have won the past 10 Grand Slam titles overall and 53 of 64.

And the way they made it through the fourth round, dropping a combined total of 19 games across their three victories, served as simply the latest reminder of the gulf between them and everyone else.

"The best guys now are fully engaged, they know exactly what to expect from the court and the conditions. That helps us to play better. I think with experience, that's good. We haven't dropped much energy in any way. It's not like we're coming in with an empty tank into the second week," said Federer, an eight-time champion at Wimbledon. "All these little things help us to then really thrive in these conditions."

Sam Querrey, the American ranked 65th whose task is to take on Nadal for a semifinal berth, was asked what message the trio has sent with its supremacy over the last 15 years.

"Just: 'We're better than you guys," Querrey replied. Well put.

For the 24th time, Federer, Nadal and Djokovic reached the quarterfinals at a Grand Slam tournament together. On 20 of those previous occasions, one eventually walked away with the trophy. Would be rather surprising if this doesn't become the 21st.

In addition to No. 3 seed Nadal vs. Querrey, the other matchups Wednesday are No. 1 Djokovic vs. No. 21 David Goffin, No. 2 Federer vs. No. 8 Kei Nishikori, and No. 23 Roberto Bautista Agut vs. No. 26 Guido Pella.

The most excited member of the group was Pella, a 29-year-old from Argentina who eliminated 2016 runner-up Milos Raonic and 2018 runner-up Kevin Anderson on his first trip past the third round at a major tournament.

"It's the first time in my career I feel important," Pella said.

If Federer and Nadal both win, they would meet in the semifinals, just like they did at the French Open last month, when Nadal was on his way to a 12th championship in Paris. They haven't played each other in any round at Wimbledon since the marvelous 2008 final, when Nadal edged Federer 9-7 in the fifth set in dwindling daylight.

First things first, though.

Querrey's serve could be the key to his matchup against Nadal, who has won two of his 18 Grand Slam trophies on the All England Club's grass. Querrey—whose best showing at a major was reaching Wimbledon's semifinals two years ago—leads the tournament with 100 aces and by winning 71 of 72 service games.

But Nadal, who is 33, is no slouch as a returner. He has converted 49% of his break chances so far, 19 of 39, which is second-best to Federer among the quarterfinalists.

The same could be said of Federer, who seeks his 21st Grand Slam title as his 38th birthday approaches on Aug. 8, or Djokovic, who is aiming for his 16th at age 32.

# World Cup champs arrive home ahead of parade

NEW YORK (AP)—Megan Rapinoe stepped off the plane with champagne in hand —a fizzy souvenir from a most memorable trip overseas.

"Thank you, France, for the hospitality," the U.S. soccer star said. "But wow, we are very excited to be back in America."

The U.S. women's national team arrived in New York on Monday, a day after beating the Netherlands 2-0 FRANCE 2019 to capture a record fourth Women's

World Cup title. Players and staff touched down at Newark Liberty International Airport at about 4:30 p.m., where they were met with cheers and a banner saying "Congratulations Team USA!" More fans waited at their hotel in Manhattan, and the players are sure to be feted around the city all week, capped with a ticker-tape parade Wednesday up the Canyon of Heroes.

"I think everyone's feeling just incredible right now," said Alex Morgan, who swapped out her imaginary teacup for a gold bottle of bubbly on the flight.

Rapinoe converted a penalty kick in the second half and Rose Lavelle added a goal in the championship game, kicking off a party that carried over to the tarmac in Newark. Players gathered for a toast and posed for pictures as they sang "We Are The Champions."

"We kind of went through stages," Morgan said. "Initially everyone was excited, and then a little hungover, and then we slept a little bit, and then we got up and started just

celebrating a little more."

The team got shout outs across social media-including from Presidents Donald Trump, Barack Obama and Bill Clinton; two-time World

Cup winner Mia Hamm, Stephen Curry, Snoop Dogg, Ellen DeGeneres and many more. Dozens of politicians offered congratulations, and congress' top Democrats have invited the team to Washington.

That was all news to players when they landed, since their flight back to the U.S. did not have Wi-Fi.

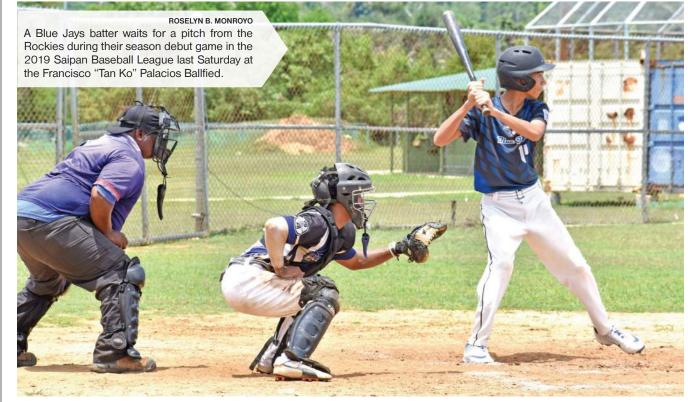
"Crazily enough in this day and age in 2019, we've been in the dark for nine straight hours," Rapinoe said. "We're sort of catching up on everything.'

Wednesday will mark New York's first ticker-tape parade since the women's team won the 2015 World Cup. Long Island's Crystal Dunn was a late cut from the '15 squad, and she's "super excited" to parade through her own city.

"I am such a proud New Yorker," she said. "It's in my blood. It's everywhere I go. It's such a special place. Obviously for this to be our first stop back here when we get back to the United States, it's incredible."

So, on the same day Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer said that Rapinoe accepted an invitation for the USWNT to celebrate its World Cup victory with a visit to Congress, the team's captain also confirmed that there has been no invitation to visit the White House, yet.

# Blue Jays slip past Rockies



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Blue Jays won their season debut in the Saipan Baseball League

after outclassing the Rockies, 9-7, last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfied.

Pitcher Noel Cabrera powered the Blue Jays past the Rockies after scoring five Rockies failed to score.

the last run was off a passed

RBIs and going 2-for-3 at bat. His two-run homer at the bottom of the sixth inning allowed the Blue Jays to grab the lead and they hung on to it at the top of the seventh, as the

Before Cabrera's big hit, the Rockies were ahead, 7-5. The Rockies got three runs in the first inning-one earned-and another earned in the third before adding two in the fourth off the Blue Jays' errors, while

to give Tonga a 2-0 lead. Tonga also took the men's singles with Lauti edging Galvez, 21-13, 19-21, 21-18, and the women's doubles (Isitolo and Tatafu outclassing Malasarte and Pangilinan, 21-15, 19-21, 21-10).

With the 4-1 victory and a 3-3 record Tonga finished the event at No. 4, while the CNMI slid to fifth place with a 2-4 record.

in the last game yesterday, 3-1, while Fiji stole the gold following a sweep of Kiribati and Samoa in the final day of the competition.

ball in the fifth.

The Blue Jays, on the other hand, made it to the board off Cabrera's two-run single in the second, notched two more off the Rockies' miscues in the third, and the fifth one off a fielder's choice at the bottom of the fifth to face a two-run deficit.

The scores remained the same at the top of the sixth, as the Rockies leadoff batter was called for a 6-3 output play and Greg Sablan was left stranded at second when both Austin Benavente and B.J. Guerrero

flied out at centerfield.

Then at the bottom of the sixth, Blue Jays leadoff batter Ariel Mendiola advanced off a Rockies' error, while Andres Camacho singled. Cabrera batted third and brought home with him Mendiola and Camacho to put the Blue Jays in the driver's seat, 8-7. Emory Fitial added one more run, as he made it to first off another Rockies' booboo, and stole second and third before reaching home, as catcher Greg Sablan fumbled. Chris Myers,

who replaced T.J. Dela Cruz after Cabrera's homer, struck out Koby Foreman and Ben Lizama, while James Salalila went down on a 6-3 putout play to end the sixth inning with the Rockies needing to score at least two runs in the seventh to extend the match.

They didn't, as Cabrera fanned leadoff batter Keoni Lizama. Larson Sibetang then was stuck at first when the Blue Jays made a double play, as Dela Cruz flied out at leftfield and Myers was beaten at first.

#### CNMI

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Sinclair was done for the day, as head coach Jeff Race opted to have Schorr and Song close out for the CNMI against Nauru. Schorr did not disappoint and eased past Robert Shansky Hubert, 6-1, 6-0, while Song also cruised to victory in the second singles game against Dallas Addi, 6-1, 5-0 (retired). In the doubles, Song and Schorr took only two sets, too to beat Robert Scotty and Itaia Kanano, 6-2, 6-1, and complete the CNMI's domination in the pool play.

Meanwhile, the CNMI-Tahiti semis tiff will be played today, starting at 2pm (11am Saipan time) with the winner marching into the gold medal round that will take place tomorrow. In the other Final Four duel, it will be Samoa versus Papua New Guinea. Samoa led Group B after eliminating Fiji and the Cook Islands, while PNG prevailed over American Samoa and Guam and was ahead (1-0) against No. 3 Tonga in yesterday's last pool play match in Group C.

In other results, the CNMI is out of the medal race in the women's division after losing to No. 4 seed PNG.

351 Abigail Tere-Apisah topped Carol Lee, 6-3, 6-3,



LYDIA TAN

From left, Isabel Heras, Tania Tan, Carol Lee, and Malika Miyawaki pose for a photo before playing against Papua New Guinea in the team tennis event of the XVI Pacific Games yesterday at the Apia Park Courts in Samoa

while Violet Apisah edged Isabel Heras, 6-2, 7-5, to give PNG the automatic win. The PNG duo also outclassed Lee and Heras in the doubles, 6-1, 6-2.

After losing to PNG and Samoa, the CNMI aims to save a win in the pool play in Group C when it takes on the Cook Islands today. PNG, on the other hand, will face American Samoa in the semis, while New Caledonia is still waiting for its opponent in the other playoff game.

#### TENORIO

From Page 28

ifiers in the gold medal race. David Boyer was the other Commonwealth swimmer entered in the sprint event and timed in at 36.61 seconds to beat three Vanuatu entries.

In the women's 50m backstroke, Aika Watanabe and Jinju Thompson registered 35.42 seconds and 36.93 seconds, respectively, while Sophia Gauran raced in the 100m butterfly and logged 1:18:17. Boyer and Lennosuke Suzuki also did the 100m butterfly swim and were ranked No. 16 and 17, respectively, in the qualifying heats.

Meanwhile, in last Tuesday's gold medal races, Watanabe finished fifth with a time of 2:48.34, while Thompson placed seventh after recording 2:56.06. Gauran was also in seventh spot in the women's

200m breaststroke finale after tallying 3:29.32, while Tenorio came in at sixth in the same distance after posting 2:26.63.

In other tournaments, Kalea Andrew finished sixth in the V-1's 500m gold medal race yesterday, while Tyce and Logan Mister were swept by Kiribati in beach volleyball last Tuesday.

#### **Badminton team** event wraps up

Nathan Guerrero and Jordan Pangilinan spoiled Tonga's bid to sweep the CNMI after beating Renaey Naaniumotu and Taniela Ngaue in the men's doubles play, 21-17, 21-12, at the conclusion of the badminton team event yesterday.

Earlier in the mixed doubles and women's singles, Lauti Naaniumotu and Litea Tatafu downed Andreau Galvez and Janelle Pangilinan, 21-15, 21-16, and Lata Isitolo topped Nicole Malasarte, 21-18, 21-13,

Fiji won the gold, beating New Caledonia and Tahiti in the tiebreak. The three teams finished the round-robin tournament with similar 5-1 marks, but Fiji notched first place after winning 25 matches against the 24 of New Caledonia and 23 of No. 1 seed Tahiti. Tahiti settled for the bronze as it was defeated by New Caledonia

Pro player and world No.



Silver: NBA 'can do a better job' on free agency, rules

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AL strikes out 16, holds off NL in All-**Star Game** 

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**28** THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2019

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# NMI still unbeaten in men's tennis

roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com

he CNMI Men's National Tennis Team moved closer to the medal podium in the XVI Pacific Games after sweeping the pool play yesterday at the Apia Park Tennis Courts in Samoa.

The Commonwealth players first dominated Kiribati in the morning matches, 3-0, and then topped Nauru in similar scores in the afternoon to finish Group D with an undefeat-



ed record (9-0). The CNMI earlier shut down the Solomon Islands in its first pool play assignment xvipacificgames last Tuesday.

With the sweep, Colin Sinclair, Robbie Schorr, and Ken Song advanced to the semifinals against Ridge Chung, Heve Kelley, and Heimanarii Lai San of Group A top finisher Tahiti. Unranked Tahiti edging New Caledonia, 2-1, and No. 1 seed Vanuatu, 2-1, in the preliminary matches.

Sinclair recorded his second shutout victory after crushing

made it to the semifinals after Tebatibunga Tito in the first bles with Schorr and a 6-1, 6-4 singles, while Ken Song won in the second singles match over Bauro Lambourne, 6-0, 6-0, to finish off Kiribati early. Sinclair also played in the dou-

triumph over Lambourne and Tito gave the CNMI the sweep in Day 3 of the tennis competi-

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Coach Jeff Race, left, joins his players, Ken Song, Robbie Schorr, and Colin Sinclair for a group photo before the team's match against Kiribati in the XVI Pacific Games yesterday at the Apia Park



The CNMI's Colin Sinclair returns to Kiribati's Tebatibunga Tito during their singles game in the XVI Pacific Games vesterday at the Apia Park Tennis Courts in Samoa.

# Tenorio enters finals anew, gets PB

roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Swimmer Juhn Tenorio recorded two accomplishments yesterday at the continuation of the pool action in the XVI Pacific Games at the Samoa Aquatic Centre in Apia.

The 15-year-old earned his second finals appearance in the swimming competition after making the grade in the qualifying races in the 50m backstroke event, as he clocked in at 29.56 seconds on Heat 2. Tenorio finished third in his group behind Tahiti's Taiki Dupont (27.68 seconds) and Tonga's Finau Ohuafi (29.08 seconds).

On top of advancing to the gold medal swim, the CNMI



Juhn Tenorio is in the finals of the 50m backstroke event in the XVI Pacific Games in Samoa.

bet also set a personal best, surpassing his previous mark of 29.68 seconds. The finals took place last night and results were unavailable as off Ross (27.44 seconds), and

press time. New Caledonia's Julien Goyetche (27.36 seconds) and Shenin Mathis (29.47 seconds), Fiji's Netani

Samoa's Kokoro Frost (28.71 seconds) were the other qual-

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Mar ark Termins Oddris	VI PAC		GAN	
XVIPACIFICGAMES	EDAL T	ALLY	(As of 7pm/	July 10)
Countries	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
New Caledo	onia 15	12	9	36
Tahiti	9	7	3	19
Papua New	Guinea 6	10	3	19
Samoa	5	2	10	17
≅ ∓ Fiji	4	7	9	20
Solomon Is	lands 3	7	6	16
Australia Australia	3	0	3	6
Nauru	3	0	2	5
Kiribati	3	0	0	3
Guam	0	5	2	7
Wallis and	Futuna 0	1	2	3
Cook Island	ls 0	0	2	2